ARIZONA'S MYSTERIOUS MILE WIDE Flying Triangle

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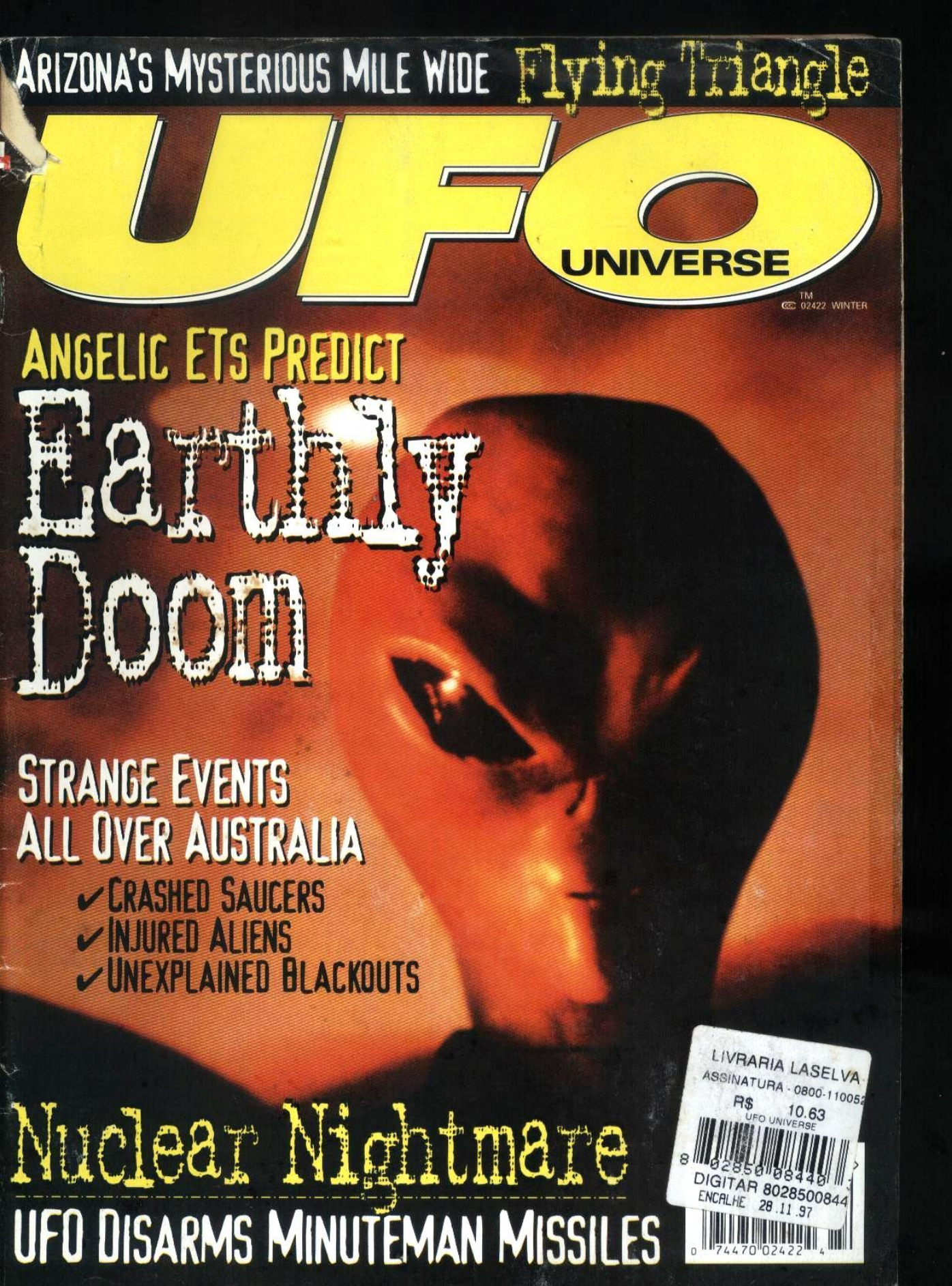
Earthly Doom



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ASTEROID BELT

THE LATEST OTHER-WORLDLY HAPPENINGS

ON THE TRAIL OF THE FLYING SAUCERS WITH TIM—"MR. UFO"—BECKLEY

From talking to the witnesses, it almost seems as if we were under attack.

A few months ago, the biggest flap in years started up in the sky over the city of Phoenix, and headed right across the state of Arizona. And despite attempts by the authorities to explain away the sightings of this mysterious triangle-shaped machine, those who saw it—and we're talking in the thousands here—know that what appeared over their heads was not an illusion or flares fired from a military base miles away.

The intensity of the flap was enough to make a person's head spin. Our own contributing editor, William Hamilton, told us over dinner not far from the spot of the first sighting that he had personally logged some 300 reports from around the state and was convinced that nobody was likely to find a "logical" explanation for what residents of this beautiful desert city had seen.

At the same time as the Arizona wave of sightings was going on, we were receiving reports from other parts of the world, including an update on all the recent activity in Australia as brought to you by our newest contributor, Timothy Swartz. We also have been informed of an ongoing flap in Puerto Rico (which we will report on in our sister publication, Unsolved UFO Sightings) and a possible crash of a UFO in Brazil (there seems to be something going on there every few days).

As always, UFO Universe promises not to let our loyal readers down. As long as we are able, we will continue to bring you all the latest news directed to us from our worldwide chain of correspondents. And please look for our forthcoming special, UFO Universe: Coverups and Conspiracies, which you should be able to obtain at the same place you purchased this issue of your favorite publication. And if you have any local news, by all means pass it along.

Tim—"Mr. UFO"—Beckley

CELEBRITY CORNER
Editor Tim Beckley (far left) is flanked to his right by Roger Martin, host of the west coast *Out and About* TV program, and Mathew Boone, grandson of famed contactee George Van Tassel. The photo was taken by producer Jim Lichnerowicz in front of the mysterious building known as the Integratron, the blue prints to which were given by the space people to the late Van Tassel, who claimed multiple contacts with ETs who landed in the California desert in the early 1950s, bringing their peaceful and spiritual philosophy to mankind.

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UFO UNIVERSE SPECIAL INSIDE THE BIGGEST FLAP IN YEARS!

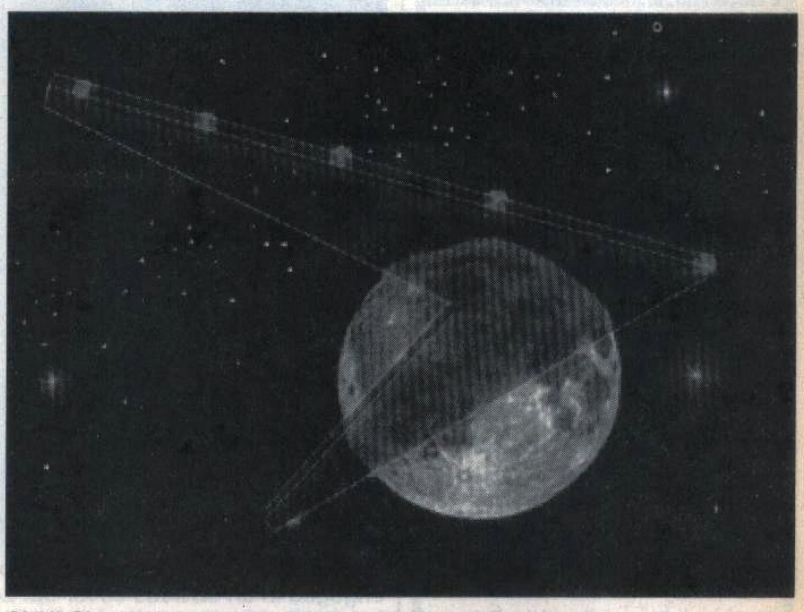
Witnesses say the object was so large you could land 747s on it, and that it stretched across four city intersections.

"VLO's" Very Large Objects Reported over Arizona

by Timothy Green Beckley and Sean Casteel

While most of the media coverage on UFOs for the summer of 1997 dealt with the 50th Anniversary Celebration of The Roswell Incident, there was also another fascinating story that began drawing national news attention around the same time: The huge wave of sightings of lights in the night sky around Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona.

Beginning on the night of March 13, 1977, thousands of phone calls flooded the switch boards of local police and newspaper offices as well as at the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Washington. According to an article in The Arizona Republic, "Callers reported bright lights in the form of a boomerang, with lights described as red-orange, red, white or bluish white."



OVNI Chapterhouse computer simulation of Boomerang craft as seen by witness Mike Fortson. (Credit: Bill Hamilton)

"When the stem of it was reaching the eye-witnesses' house, the stern of it reached beyond Chandler Boulevard, which was over four blocks north of his house. So we're talking about an object which I have termed a 'VLO,' a Very Large Object."

The reports began, according to the newspaper, with a call from a former police officer, who "spotted the strange cluster of lights moving very quickly across the night sky near Paulden, north of Prescott in Yavapai County. Reports poured in to Luke Air Force Base and the National UFO Reporting Center, which logged the call from the unidentified former police officer. Four days later, there is no clear explanation for the object, described as both a triangle and a straight line, and varying from bright red to white to bluish white."

The article goes on to say that the National Weather Service and officials at Luke Air Force Base had no answers to offer about the nature of the lights.

"We just know it was not one of our planes," Lt. Col. Mike Hauser is quoted as saying. "Everybody is telling me that we have UFOs stashed all over the Air Force. I'm not taking issue with what people saw, but lots of things can make lights."

Meanwhile, a cement truck driver named Bill Greiner came forward with his own story in direct contradiction to what was stated by the Air Force.

"I'll never be the same," Greiner is quoted as saying by USA Today.

Greiner told the national newspaper that he was hauling a load down a mountain north of Phoenix when he saw two brilliantly lit orbs shaped like spinning tops.

"Before this," he said, "if anybody'd told me they saw a UFO, I would have said, 'Yeah, and I believe in the tooth fairy.' Now I've got a whole new view. I may be just a dumb truck driver, but I've seen something that don't belong here."

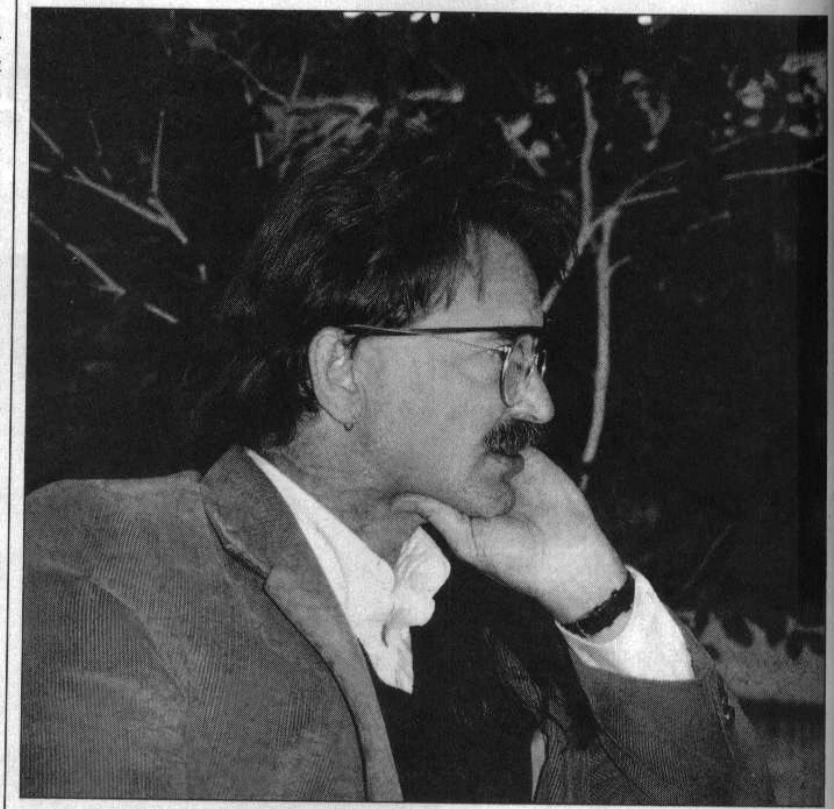
USA Today said that Greiner's route took him within a mile of the base, and he says one of the orbs was over the base when three F-16s took off and veered right for it. Then it shot straight up and disappeared "like a blink of an eye."

Greiner said, "It was crazy. I know those pilots saw it. Hell, I'll take a lie detector test on national TV if the guy from the base does the same thing. I wish the government would just admit it. You know what it's like in this city right now? It's like having 50,000 people in a stadium watch a football game and then having someone tell us we weren't there."

For his part, Lt. Col. Hauser complained of the calls continuing to pour into the base.

"They're calling us liars," he said. "I take great exception to that. I've answered every question. We have nothing to hide. But the fact is that we don't investigate UFOs."

As always, where UFOs are seen, controversy soon follows. In an effort to find out more about what really happened, we spoke to William Hamilton, an Arizona-based UFO researcher of national renown. Hamilton—who is a con-



TV host Ted Loman believes that officials from Luke Air Force Base are engaged in an obvious cover-up. Loman says that the case of truck driver Bill Greiner is just one example of military denial of an honest witness's testimony.

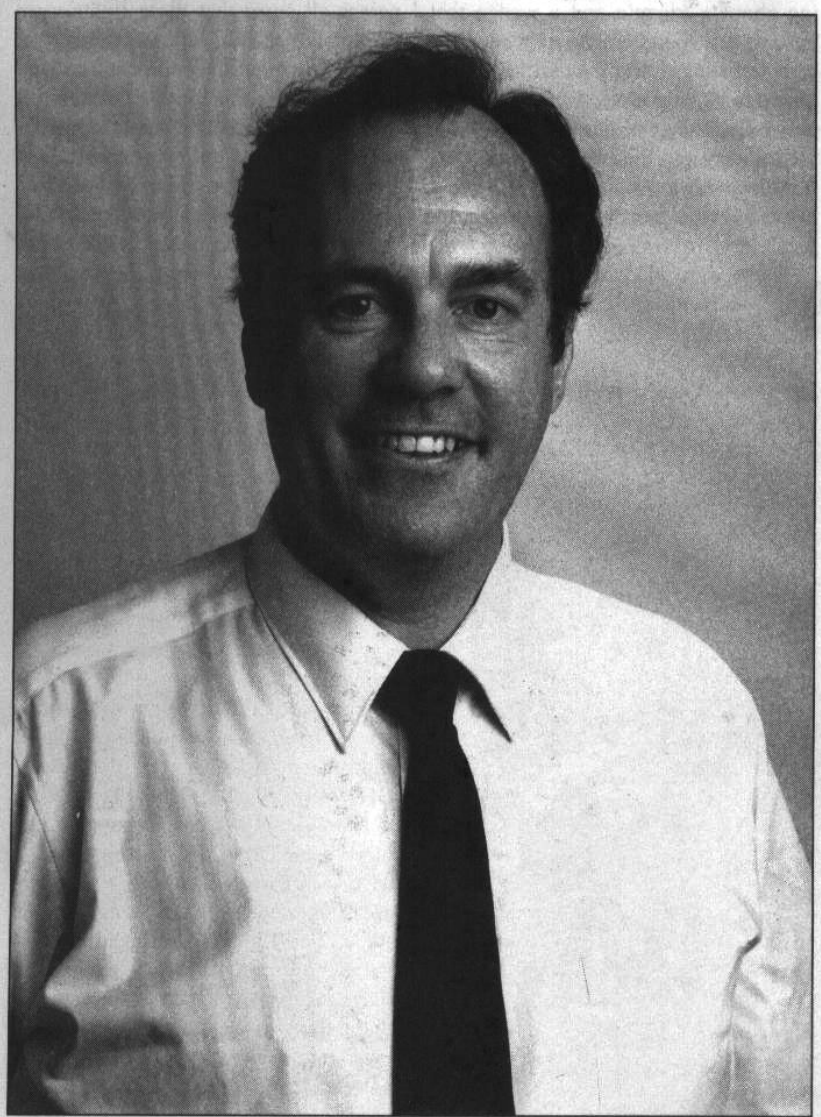
"These yellow lights were not just lights, they were orbs that were 'deployed.' They detached themselves, went out into the environment, then returned and reattached themselves."

tributing editor to this publication—had interviewed a great many witnesses to the UFOs, many of whom had shot their own videotape as the sightings were happening.

"The appearance of this particular object," Hamilton said, "was five lights in a V-formation. And what's so interesting is that we have the various times that the witnesses saw it so that we can plot the ground-track of this object. Tim Lee and his family saw it from outside their home. They were probably the closest to seeing the object. And it was huge. It also passed over Scottsdale and then it went on to Tempe. Then it went on to Chandler, where Mike Fortson saw it. His estimate of the size was that, when the stem of it was reaching the eye-witnesses' house, the stern of it reached beyond Chandler Boulevard, which was over four blocks north of his house. So we're talking about an object which I have termed a 'VLO,' a Very Large Object."

But there was still more to be seen that night.

"About ten or fifteen minutes after the first object passed over on a northwest to southeast trajectory," Hamilton said, "there was a second Very Large Object, a big, black triangle. This is the one that had the glowing amber lights on the leading edge of it. And it actually had structure to it that people could see. There were what were described as pan-



Contributing editor William Hamilton has been at the forefront of interviewing dozens of the potentially thousands of witnesses who observed the strange aerial phenomena over the Phoenix area.

Note to Our Readers:

We promise to continue our in-depth investigation of the ongoing UFO encounters in Phoenix and other parts of Arizona. So be sure to check out each and every issue of UFO Universe for the latest information from our world-wide resources.

"One eyewitness," he said, "was driving on Interstate 10 with a car full of people. He described the black triangle that passed south over Casa Grande and over Interstate 10 as being so large that airplanes could land on it."

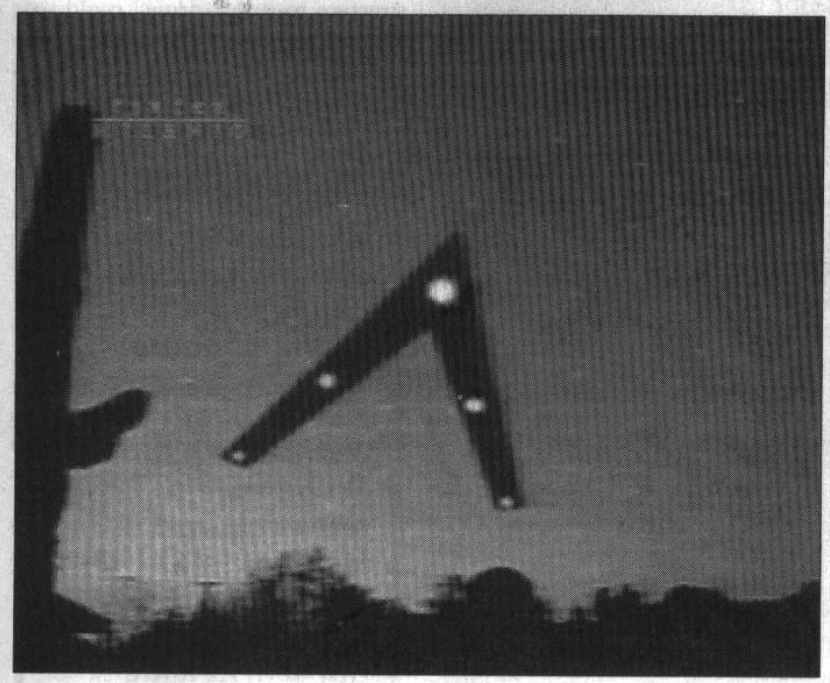
els on the bottom. And these yellow lights were not just lights, they were orbs that were 'deployed.' They detached themselves, went out into the environment, then returned and reattached themselves."

The sheer immensity of what was being seen was indelibly marked on the memory of many witnesses, according to Hamilton.

"One eyewitness," he said, "was driving on Interstate 10 with a car full of people. He described the black triangle that passed south over Casa Grande and over Interstate 10 as being so large that airplanes could land on it. One of the things that impressed people about the two objects is their immense size. In fact, Mike Fortson first estimated that the wedge was a mile long. In addition, we recently found out that three large orbs were seen on the east side over Fountain Hill. These were big globes that were glowing and stationary. They were sitting there when the triangle was coming through, very slowly. I'm talking about a triangle and a wedge that both passed soundlessly overhead. They were traveling slower than an aircraft requires to be held aloft. And trained witnesses, including people who've been in the military and the Air Force and were familiar with aviation, pilots and engineers and what have you, attested to this fact."

There were also other peculiarities observed by witnesses.

"The triangular-shaped craft at first is running dark," he said, "then it turns on the lights in one sequence and then turns them off in a reverse sequence. Then it travels on and just moves out of sight. Also, it hovers, then moves extremely slowly, and then accelerates to pretty fast speeds. So we have many different velocity ranges represented by these Very Large Objects. And witnesses all agree that these lights were extremely beautiful lights that were recessed in some kind of structure that was carrying the lights. Everybody mentions this 'floating' or 'skating on ice' or like it was 'moving on a track in the sky.' And there was this kind of a rippling effect in front of the lights, a distortion field, which indicates they were surrounded by something. There was a refraction effect as well. Everything was highly unusual."



Village Labs computer simulation of the V-shaped lights seen by the Tim Ley family at8:30 PM, on March 13. (Credit: Bill Hamilton)

In spite of the consistent sightings being reported by thousands of area residents, many of whom had been outside hoping to catch a glimpse of the Comet Hale-Bopp as it made its nearest approach to Earth that March, it wasn't long before an effort at debunking the lights began. The official explanation being offered was that a series of flares set off at the nearby Barry Goldwater Test Range had been responsible for the many reports of UFOs.

The flares theory has most prominently been championed by Richard Motzer, an investigator for the Mutual UFO Network who is based in Arizona.

Hamilton is not convinced, however, "I've seen flares," Hamilton said. "I have seen flares over military operating areas like Twenty-Nine Palms Marine Base. The flares smoke, they spark, they're suspended by parachutes. They move relative to each other. These lights did nothing of the kind. They were as if they were fixed to one object. They had no relative movement and no vertical or horizontal movement. And they glowed intensely bright with an amber light but illuminated nothing. As intense as they were, they should have been illuminat-

Witnesses all agree that these lights were extremely beautiful lights that were recessed in some kind of structure that was carrying the lights. Everybody mentions this 'floating' or 'skating on ice' or like it was 'moving on a track in the sky.' And there was this kind of a rippling effect in front of the lights, a distortion field, which indicates they were surrounded by something.

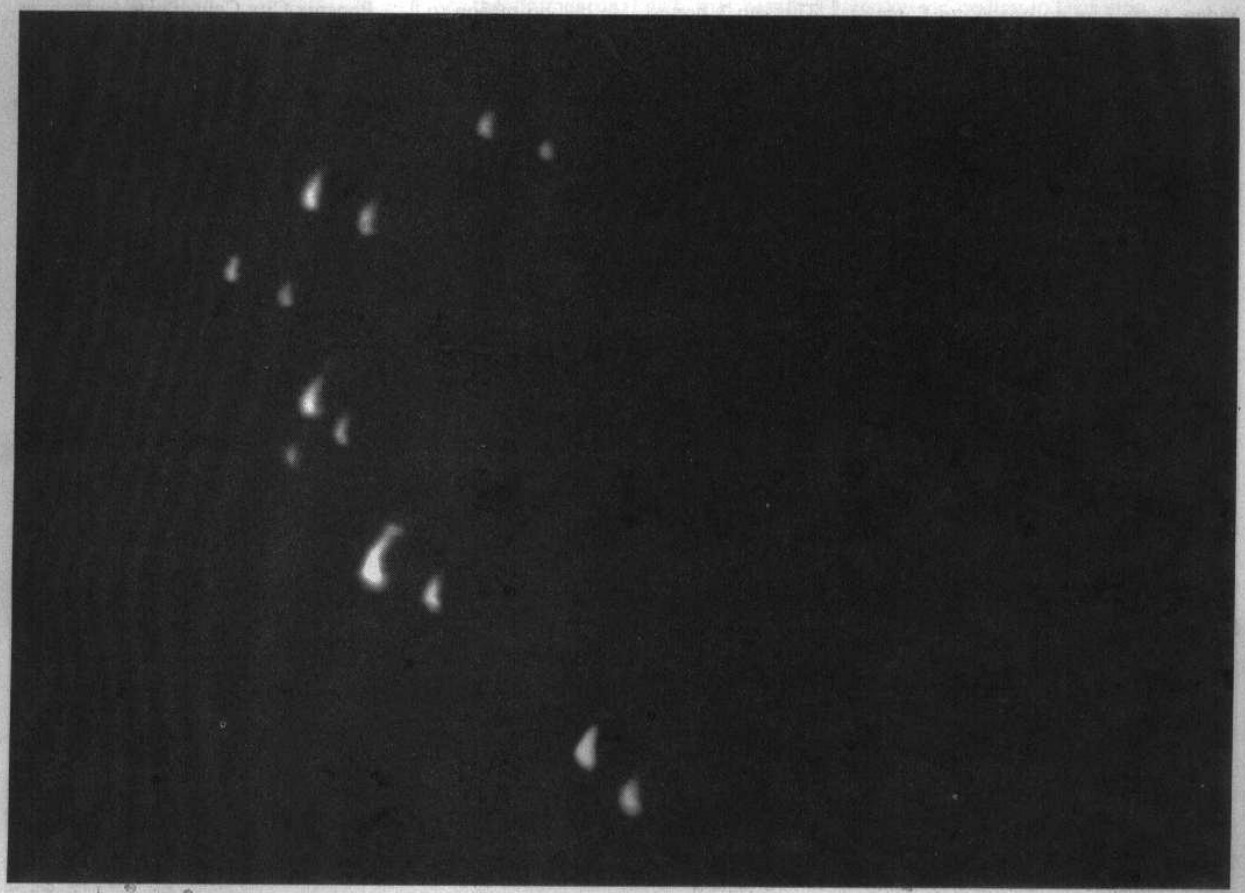
ing the terrain."

The flare theory also has another glitch in it.

"The flares would have been over 50 to 60 miles away," he said. "There's no way people at the north end of the Valley could even see those flares. It's impossible. There's too many mountains in the way and they're at too low an elevation."

Ted Loman, a resident of Tucson who hosts a live, weekly television show called "UFO-AZ" seen coast to coast as well as a local radio program on UFOs and paranormal subjects, also objects to the flares explanation.

"They are definitely not flares," Loman said. "Or if they are flares, they are top secret and not designed to give off any significant light, which is what flares are normally used for. I've got videotape of flares, and flares give off smoke. Even on a parachute, flares eventually fall to the ground. These



Researchers note the many similarities between the objects seen over the Phoenix area and the triangle-shaped "night fliers" that plagued New York's Hudson Valley over 10 years ago. (Photo of the Brewster, NY UFO from the private collection of Philip Imbrogno.)

"Flares don't fly from Paulden to Prescott then hover over Phoenix then fly to Tucson or Red Rock and then come back and hover over Phoenix again. Flares don't do that."

lights hovered in the sky. They blinked off, they blinked on. They did a ground search and covered the entire area where the flares would have dropped to the ground and left parachutes behind. There were no remnants of any type of burned material."

Loman continued in that vein.

"First of all," he said, "you've got to figure out what a flare is for. A flare is to illuminate the ground. Not to illuminate the air. And this is what throws me off with Richard Motzer—if he saw a flare on a video and he saw these lights on a video, there'd be no mistaking flares as these lights."

Loman does not immediately call the sightings extraterrestrial, however.

"I'm not saying they came from another planet," he said. "But I can tell you this—there was an intelligence behind the phenomenon. Whether it was U.S.-driven or China-driven or ET-driven, or it wasn't driven at all and was just a hologram in the sky, whatever it was, was indeed there and putting on a show. Flares don't fly from Paulden to Prescott then hover over Phoenix then fly to Tucson or Red Rock and then come back and hover over Phoenix again. Flares don't do that."

Loman said it is a given that the nearby Luke Air Force Base is engaged in a rather obvious cover-up. Loman talked about truck driver Bill Greiner's attempt to tell his story as one example of military denial of an honest witness's testimony.

"I was sitting there when Unsolved Mysteries interviewed Greiner," Loman said. "I was right there in the room with him. He made the statement that he would take a lie detector test if the commander of the base would also take one. This guy's honest. He has no reason to lie or to make something up. These people—if you bother to sit down and talk with them—they saw what they saw. They can't explain what they saw, but they saw what they saw."

If there were no cover-up, according to Loman, the situation would be even worse.

"If there is no cover-up," he said, "then we're in bigger trouble than we thought. Because this thing flew over Luke Air Force Base's restricted air space, it flew over Sky Harbor International Airport's restricted air space, and if there is anybody else who can do that and get away with it, then we're in trouble."

Hamilton said the Air Force has already publicly changed their story in regard to the truck driver's account.

"We caught Luke Air Force Base in a lie," he said, "because the Public Information Officer from Luke told the media that no jets were sent aloft that night. They bedded them down at 7 PM. That was the word. Now they're saying, 'Oh, yeah, we had F-16s but they were only up on a training mission.' Okay, that's what Lt. Col. Hauser says."

Phoenix City Councilwoman Frances Emma Barwood also entered the public fray in May of 1997 when she asked city staffers to look into the sightings on behalf of the many puzzled citizens who still sought an explanation for the strange events.

In response to her inquiry, a three paragraph report was sent to Barwood which stated that, "Since the city does not have the resources or expertise to investigate the source of the lights such as those that were reported, we depend on the United States Air Force to investigate all such matters."

Luke Air Force Base then continued

America has no monopoly on strange wonders in the sky, as can be attested to by this mile-long craft that lit up the British plains near Stonehenge.

its standard stone-walling by saying it had no plans to investigate the sightings.

Barwood is quoted in The Arizona Republic as saying she had received more than fifty calls and that all the callers "describe the same thing. The callers all reported something that was huge and made no noise. This doesn't mean it is something out of this world. At the very least, you'd think people would want to know what was flying over their homes. What if it would have crashed?"

Barwood also acknowledged she has suffered a certain amount of ridicule since she made the request for an investigation and that both Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza and his spokesman were having a field day over it.

"It doesn't take much to make little minds work hard," she said.

The clashing of local politicians is mild, however, when compared to the infighting in the UFO community itself, according to Loman.

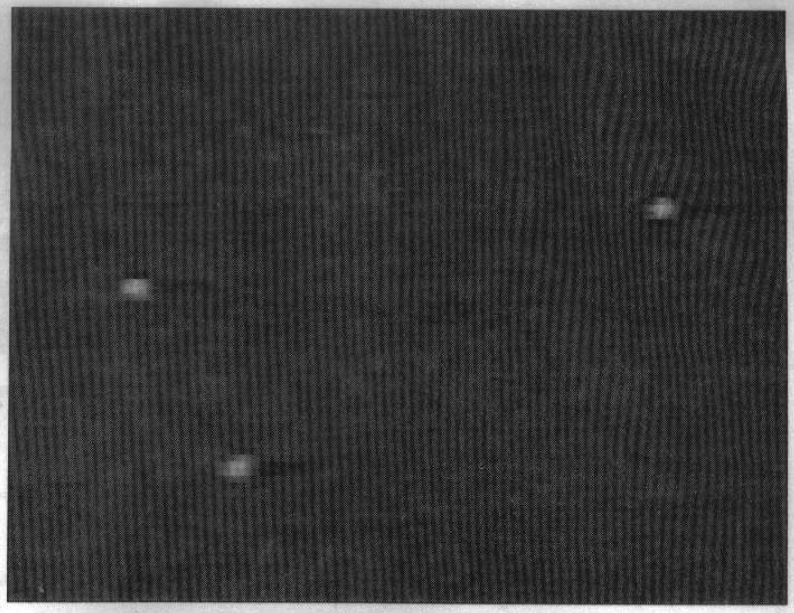
"In the field of UFOlogy," Loman said, "a lot of times people jump to conclusions in order to be first on the bandwagon without first doing a lot of good research. I would like to see within the UFO community some type of protocol set up so individuals researching UFOs can bring in other individuals with their expertise without resorting to calling people derogatory names. I'd like to see us all work together.

"There are a lot of people," he continued, "who have sincere aspirations about finding the truth. And the truth isn't 'out there.' The truth is inside you, in an individual's search. The truth has to come from inside."

Loman related a comment made to him by Las Vegas reporter George Knapp, the journalist who first broke the story of physicist Robert Lazar and the super-secret Area 51 facility in Nevada.

"George said, 'Ted, we never have to have moles or people within the government infiltrating the UFO field, because we will destroy ourselves. We'll actually eat ourselves. We're like pirhanas.' And unfortunately, I think he's right. But there are people who are trying to work together instead of separately," Loman said.

However extraterrestrial the source of the sightings may ultimately prove to be, the dramas on Earth that resulted from them are definitely of the human variety.



This is a still from a video showing the objects in a triangle formation. It was taken in the Ahwatukee area of Phoenix. (Credit: Bill Hamilton)

Meanwhile, the sightings continue to mount, according to Hamilton.

"Arizona's not the only place," he said. "I'm also getting reports from Nevada. California's having sightings

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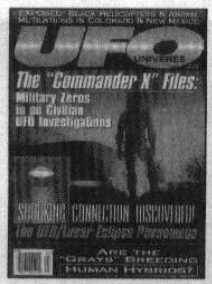
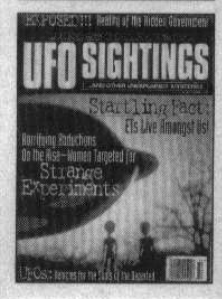
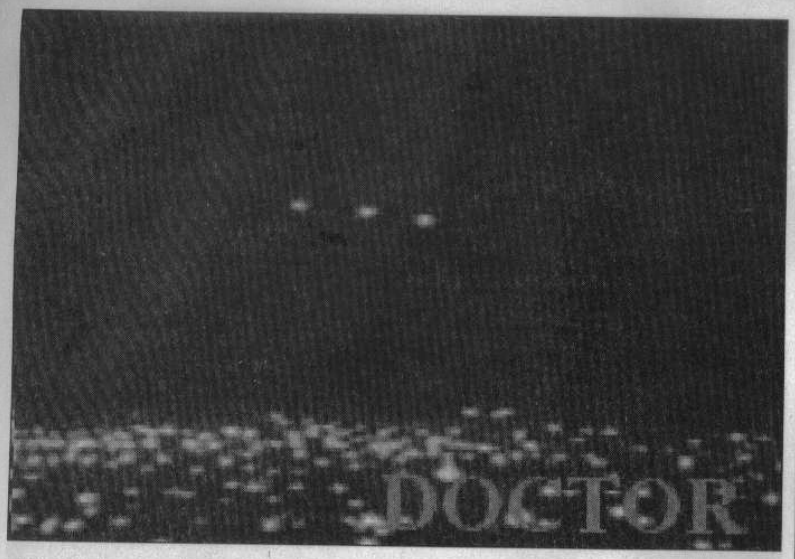






This video was shot off Camelback Mountain by a doctor. It was recorded around 10:00 PM on the night in question. (Credit: Bill Hamilton)

galore. They're all over the place. New York, for another. There's people writing me from all over the world saying 'We saw the same colored lights you saw.' Several witnesses said, 'We thought it was Independence Day,' you know, after that movie. I've never seen anything like this. It's a sustained flap."

Hamilton said he has teamed up with Jim Dilettoso and Mike Tanner of Village Labs in Tempe, Arizona. Village Labs is a company that specializes in testing photographic evidence, and together they have been closely scrutinizing all the available data.

"What we're doing is pooling all of these reports and all the information we get," Hamilton said, "and we're collecting it all in one central place at Village Labs. And we keep revising what we call the 'Event Analysis,' or the 'Event Scenario,' as to what went on that night. What were the ground track of these objects? Where were the witnesses located? What were the times involved? What was the configuration of the objects? How many lights were on the objects? What color were these lights? Were they blinking? Pulsating?"

Hamilton said he feels confident that the "truth" of the debunkers will not prevail over the long haul.

"People have a great imagination when they want to explain something," he said. "I've heard that it was flares. I've heard that it was an electrically-driven kite. I've heard fire balloons. Electrically-driven ultra-lights with halogen lamps hanging off of them. A formation of airplanes of various kinds. These are all just imaginative explanations that have nothing to do with the facts.

"We're in possession of the facts," he continued, " those facts that were presented to us by the eyewitnesses. We have the videotapes, we have the analysis, and we have some very highly trained observers, including myself."

So as the sightings wave continues so do the efforts made to understand what is happening. And if researchers like Hamilton and his associates never discover the ultimate truth, one must at least acknowledge their honest, determined efforts to do so in spite of a world that remains hostile to a truth that may finally prove to be too strange for it to bear.

This video was shot by Mike and Sue Kryzten near the Moon Valley area. Mike started recording at 10:00 PM and managed to record the sighting from beginning to end. Mike reports the lights were orange and motionless. (Credit: Bill Hamilton)

After the recent sightings wave in Arizona began to get national attention, a memory buried in the area's collective unconscious floated up to waking awareness. The tale of a crashed UFO and dead alien bodies, a situation nearly identical to the Roswell Incident, once again became a topic worthy of local media attention there in Phoenix, Arizona.

Arizona Crashed Disc Legend Resurfaces

by Sean Casteel

On June 26, 1997, the daily newspaper in Phoenix, *The Arizona Republic,* published an interview with 73-year-old Selman Graves, who told the story of a UFO's crash in 1947...three months after the more widely known Roswell Incident. Graves claimed that there had been two deceased humanoids on ice in the freezer of his hunting buddy Walt Salyer, who is now deceased himself.

"The way Graves recalls it," reporter Thomas Ropp wrote, "he and his brother-in-law Bob Malody drove to Salyer's house on a clear, crisp Saturday morning in early October to go rabbit hunting. Salyer was not there, so Graves and Malody made themselves at home in the basement. When Salyer showed up about 20 minutes later, he was agitated that 22-year-old Graves and 16-year-old Malody were there unsupervised. Graves said he was especially nervous when anyone got near the freezer."

Graves said Salyer's behavior was out of character for him. Then Salyer told the two that they would not be able to go hunting in a due west direction because the Air Force had restricted the area and the firing of guns might be dangerous. Believing they would meet up with Salyer's hunting party later, Graves and Malody set off on horseback.

Graves and Malody instead found themselves in a location that is known today as the Cave Creek Recreation Center. They climbed to the top of the highest hill and looked back south towards Salyer's ranch. Then, when Graves looked west of the property, the same area he had been warned away from, he saw something that made no sense at the time and which still lingers hauntingly in his memory.

"What we saw can best be described as a large aluminum dome-shaped thing sitting upright in the desert," he said. "I thought it might be some kind of observatory dome, except why would a dome be down at that elevation?"

According to Graves, near the dome there were five men and two trucks, one of which looked like a

"There's people writing me from all over the world saying 'We saw the same colored lights you saw.' Several witnesses said, 'We thought it was Independence Day,' you know, after that movie. I've never seen anything like this. It's a sustained flap."

military transport truck capable of carrying personnel and equipment. However, the men did not appear to be working and he was unable to distinguish any particular uniform. He estimated the dome to be 36 feet in diameter and close to a mile away.

Somehow Graves and Malody ended up back at Salyer's ranch that day. But at this point, Graves' memory of what happened becomes vague and confused. He now feels that he and Malody may have been subjected to some kind of "mind-bending hypnosis" back at the ranch.

"There were men running around in the basement asking us questions about what we saw," Graves said. "I'm not sure what I told them, but I do remember telling myself [italics his] not to forget. Not to forget."

Two years later, Graves was driving near the location where he believes he had seen the dome. This time, he saw a man working on a bulldozer.

The worker on the bulldozer eventually admitted to Graves that he had been sent just to "mess up the ground" and that he had done a similar job in Barstow, California, the site of another alleged crashed saucer.

Still, it wasn't until 1952, after Graves had read a book called *Behind The Flying Saucers* by pioneer ufologist Frank Scully, that he began to consider the idea that he had witnessed the crash site of an extraterrestrial craft. Scully had written about the Cave Creek incident, claiming an informant had told him that two humanoid bodies about 4 Ω feet tall were retrieved, one sitting inside the craft and the other halfway out the hatch.

At last, Graves had a possible solution.

Perhaps, he thought, he had been standing close to the dead humanoids in Salyer's basement. As an ex-military man, Salyer was very likely the one who informed the military after the crash near his property. He might also have been the first on the scene and may have assisted in the recovery, including placing the humanoids in his large freezer.

Graves didn't mention the incident to Salyer until 1962, when he drove out to Salyer's ranch "on a whim." The conversation that followed was very unpleasant.

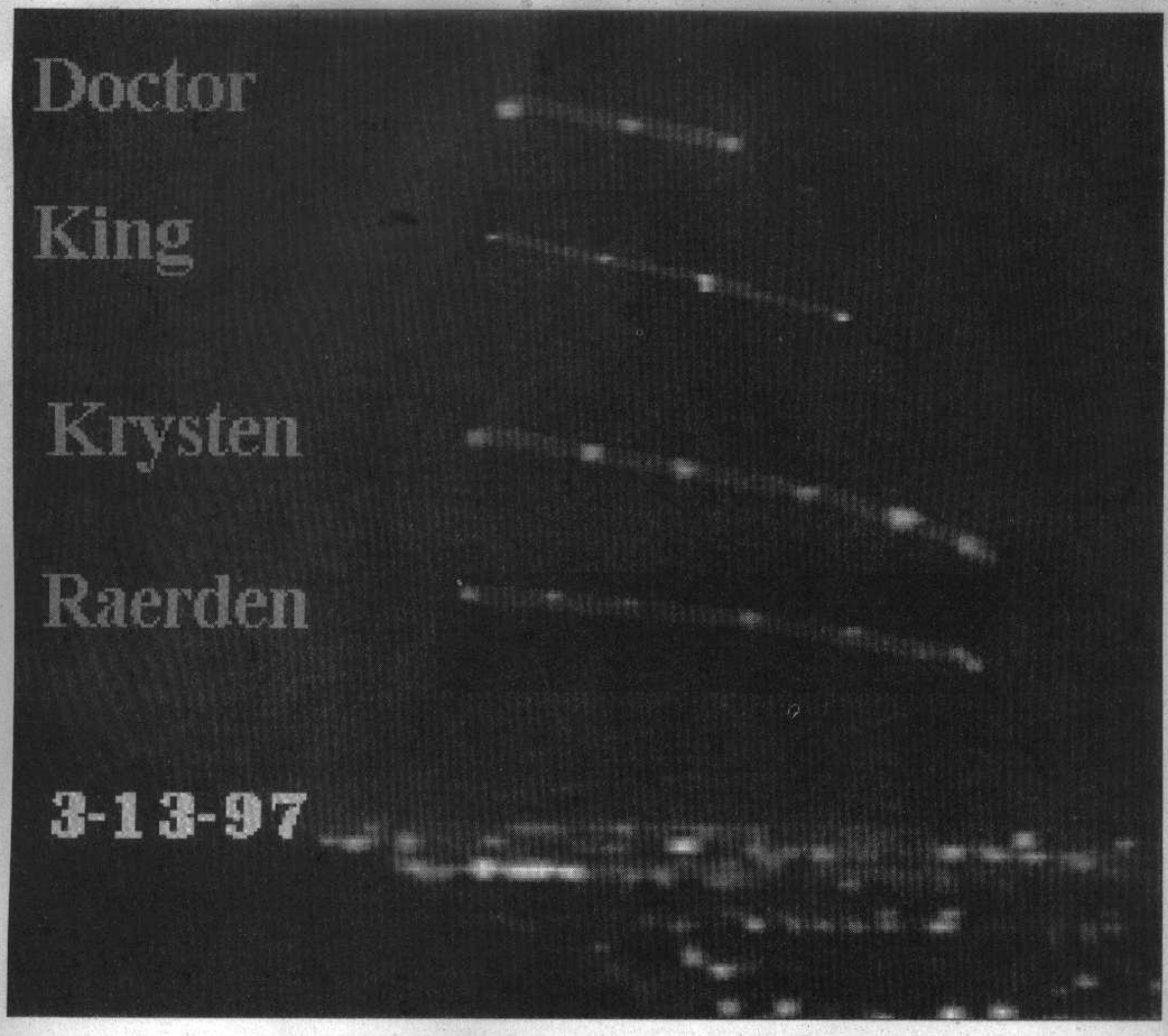
"He immediately got angry," Graves said. "He said, 'Nothing like that happened, and furthermore, you have never been here at my ranch before.'"

A few years later, Salyer died of a heart attack.

However, Salyer's trail did not become totally cold. A former reporter for the *Scottsdale Progress* and a consulting journalist for the TV show *Unsolved Mysteries,* Don Devereux of Phoenix, said he recently discovered information that indicates Salyer may indeed have taken part in the recovery operation.

During the researching of the Cave Creek crash for *Unsolved*

This video was taken by a man who refuses to amplify the details of his sighting. It clearly shows the V-formation March 13, 1997 (Credit: Bill Hamilton)



This is a computer compilation of the object from four videos. In every video, the lights have the same basic formation. Not all the videos were taken at the same time. Some were even shot of the object over different parts of the Southern Phoenix Valley near 10:00 PM. The V-formation of lights, always turned on one at a time during the event. The light display lasted between two and a half and six minutes. (Credit: Bill Hamilton)

Mysteries, Devereux met a local resident who claims to have drank with Salyer at the Cave Creek Corral many years ago.

"He was supposedly talking about the incident," Devereux said, "including the bodies in the freezer. The people in the bar thought it was funny and were razzing him about it."

Meanwhile, Graves' brother-in-law Bob Malody says he has no memory of the incident in spite of Graves' insistence that he was with him that day.

"Sel would like me to get hypnotized," Malody said. "But my feeling is, why bother? Sel honestly believes in this stuff and as far as what he saw, I don't doubt it."

Ropper's article goes on to say that very few locals have even heard the stories, and most of those who have are not believers. However, he cites Tom Taylor, state director of the International Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), as being among those who do believe. Taylor has interviewed Graves on videotape and calls him "credible and interesting."

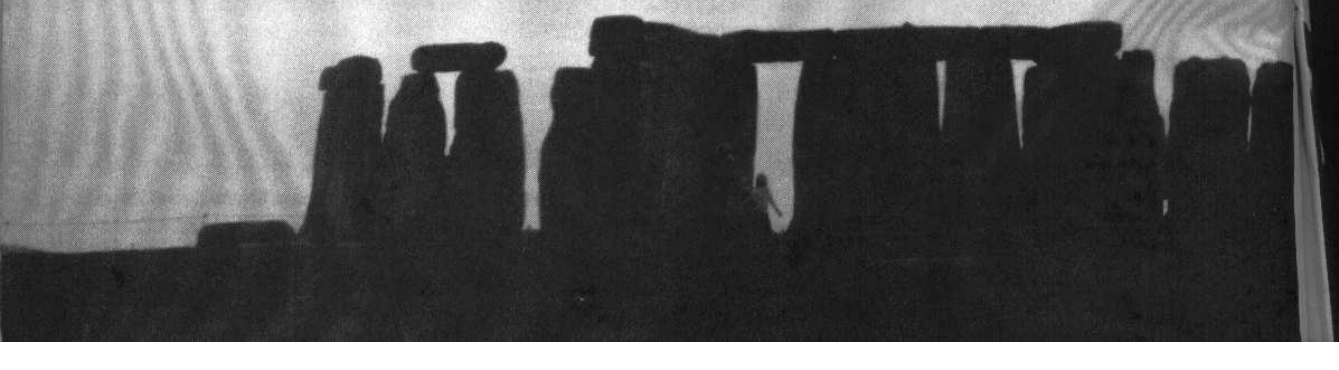
For his part, Graves has never sought publicity over the Cave Creek incident and has not been secretive either. He said he is unconcerned if people find his story difficult to believe.

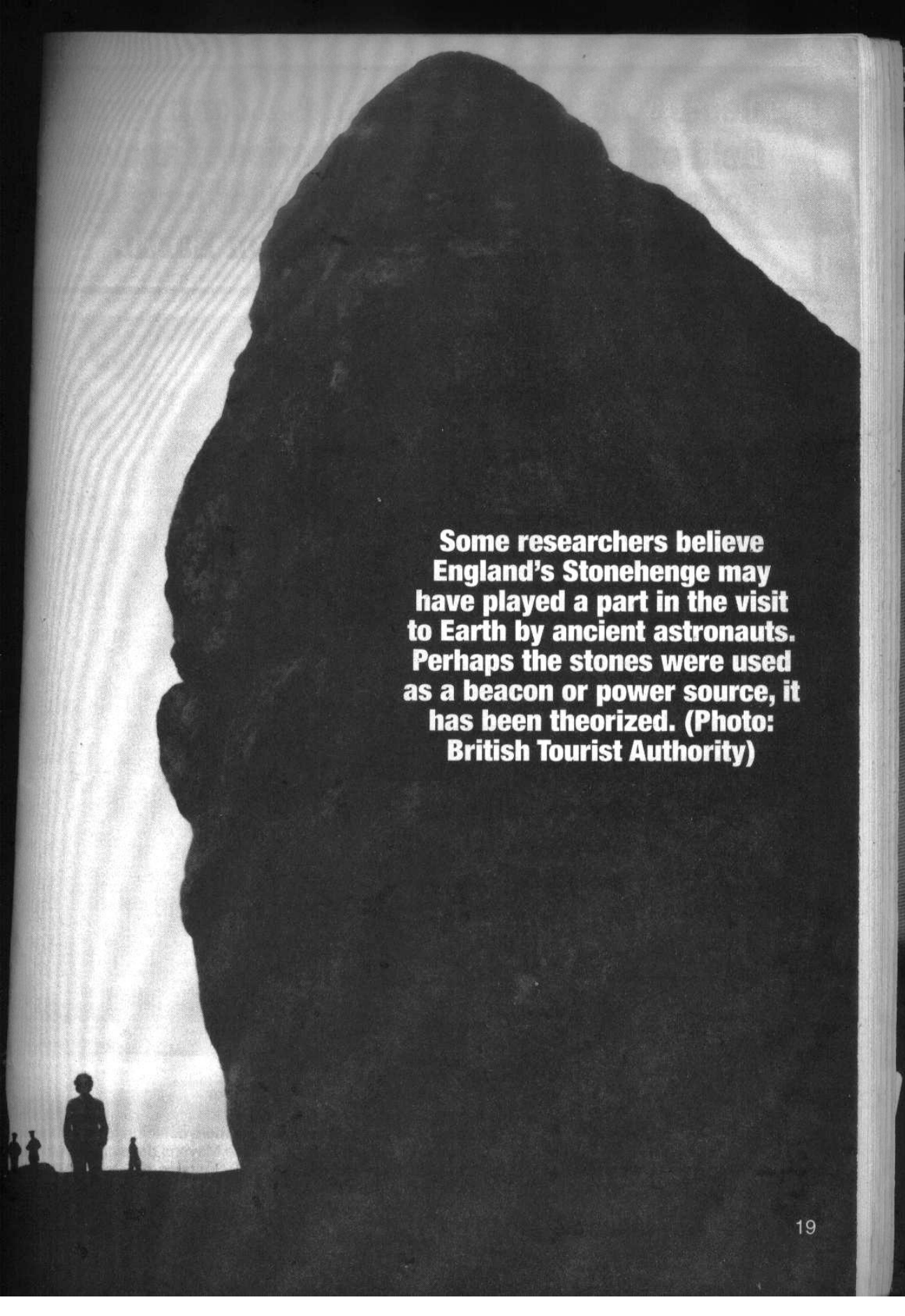
Ropper's article concludes by dryly noting that the Cave Creek Landfill is scheduled to close and eventually become part of a large residential development called Desert Dove Ranch.

So there you have it. Arizona produces one mystery after another, some rooted in the ever-changing present while others seep up from the dark well of the almost forgotten. If there are answers, they continue to elude us—at least for now.

It seems that a great many feats of major engineering in antiquity may have been "farmed" out to alien contractors!

UNVOICED TESTIMONY: VISITORS AT THE DAWN OF TIME





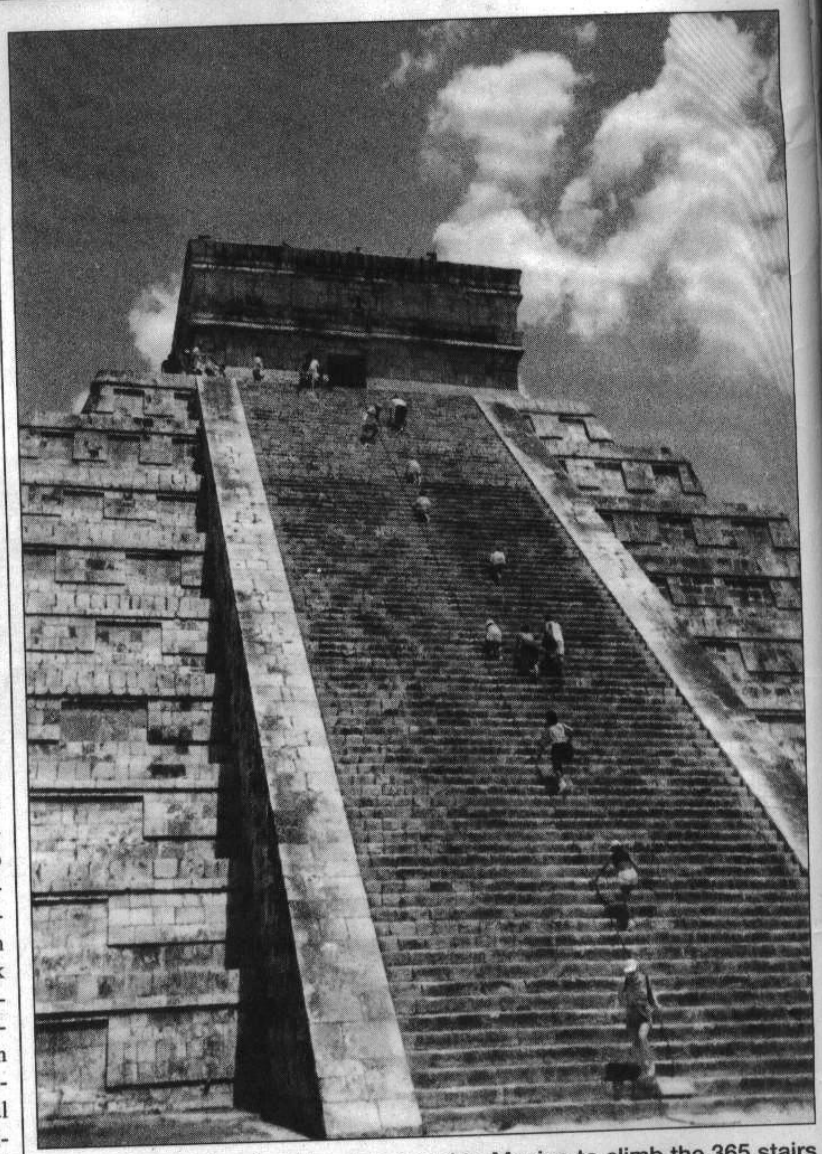
Some researchers believe England's Stonehenge may have played a part in the visit to Earth by ancient astronauts. Perhaps the stones were used as a beacon or power source, it has been theorized. (Photo: British Tourist Authority)

Paleo-UFOlogy now constitutes a controversial field of investigation into stories of ancient gods and the artifacts they might have left behind in their exploration of Earth.

by Scott Corrales

The branch of UFO research that could rightly deserve the appellation of "paleo-UFOlogy" constituted a controversial field of investigation during the 1970's, when authors like Otto Binder (Unsolved Mysteries of the Past), Richard E. Mooney (Gods of Air and Darkness), and Erich Von Daniken (Chariots of the Gods) wrote extensively on human/alien interaction at the dawn of recorded history and even earlier. Proof of the existence of "gods" or "ancient astronauts" could be found everywhere, and to judge by the conclusions found in the books of the time, it seemed that every major engineering project in antiquity had been "farmed out" to alien contractors! Paleo-UFOlogy lost its appeal and languished in obscurity until the works of Zechariah Sitchin thrust it once again into prominence. Clearly, there is still a great deal to learn about this aspect of the phenomenon.

Guatemalan researcher Oscar Rafael Padilla, an attorney and Ph.D who has dedicated 30 of his 51 years to the research of the UFO phenomenon is also the compiler of an extraordinary taxonomy of extraterrestrial creatures, composed by taking into consideration such characteristics as the existence—or lack of—hair, eye type, body shape and similarities to the human body, among others. One of the species portrayed in Clasificación Exabiológica de Entidades Extraterrestres (Exobiological Classification of Extraterrestrial Entities), is characterized by its large head and eyes in relation to the thinness of its body. The being has been classified as belonging to the family Homidia (due to its resemblance to humans), order Pri-



Each year, thousands of tourists travel to Mexico to climb the 365 stairs that lead to the top of the pyramid. Is it a mere coincidence that there are 365 days in the year, or somehow did the Mayans develop both a calendar system and advanced astronomy techniques due to possible contact with extraterrestrials? (Photo: Tim Beckley)

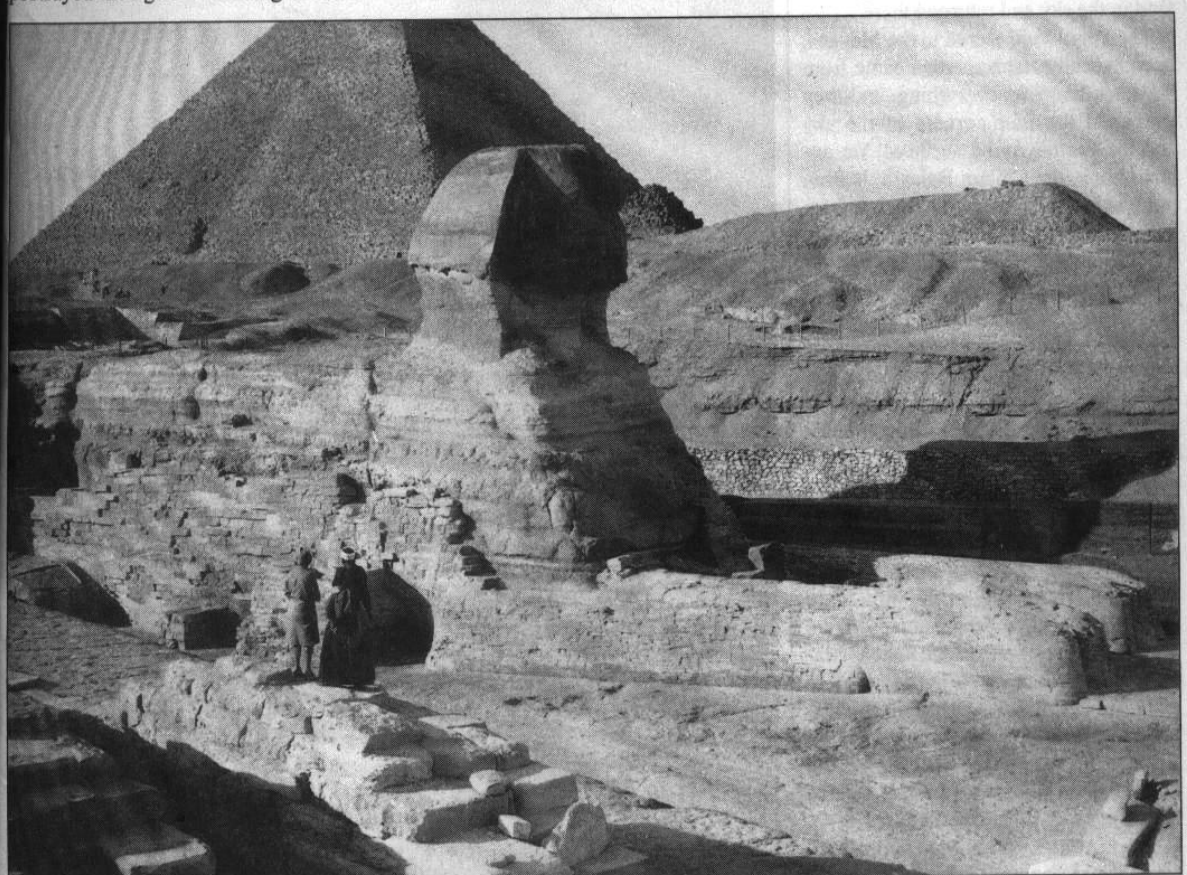
The stele portrayed the figure of a being with fingered hands, elongated legs, no feet, and two strange filaments on its head which, in Padilla's opinion, constitute "antennae."

mates (due to its walking on two extremities), subclass Euteria (since they are allegedly placental mammals). Padilla also believes that this particular variety of non-human entity played a significant role in ancient times.

Dr. Padilla recalls a very curious stele that was on display in Guatemala's Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology until its removal in 1990, when it was transferred to Japan for scientific study, according to his own research. The stele portrayed the figure of a being with fingered hands, elongated legs, no feet, and two strange filaments on its head which, in Padilla's opinion, constitute "antennae."

Scientists have dismissed Dr. Padilla's allegedly alien as a colorful primitive depiction of an imaginary monster —very much like our own science-fiction beasts—and left the matter at that. But there is growing evidence throughout South America that ancient artisans depicted certain things we now know to be fact much too clearly.

Brazilian UFO researcher Jean Alencar has noted that the mythology of this country is replete with descriptions and statuettes of beings endowed with the power of flight. The legends of Brazilian natives, like those of other countries, detail experiences of gods or travellers from the sky who descended to earth when humans were little more that animals to instruct them in the arts of agriculture, astronomy, medicine, and other disciplines. Alencar points out one figure in particular, Bep- Kororoti, a space



Though archaeologists would doubtlessly say the theory is "crazy," there are those who believe the the Sphinx may hide a hidden treasure trove of ancient alien artifacts in a still to be discovered underground chamber.

In the course of their research, they were stunned to find a clear depiction of a helmeted and suited figure, linked by a tether to the interior of a large, spherical object, leading three human females toward it.

warrior worshiped by the tribes of the upper reaches of the Xingœ River. Not unlike the heroes of India's Mahabarata, Bep-Kororoti possessed a flying vehicle capable of destroying anything in its path. His aspect terrified the primitive natives, until he stepped out of his "raiment" and revealed himself to be fair-skinned, handsome, and kind. He amused the natives with his "magic" until he grew restless for his land in the sky and returned there.

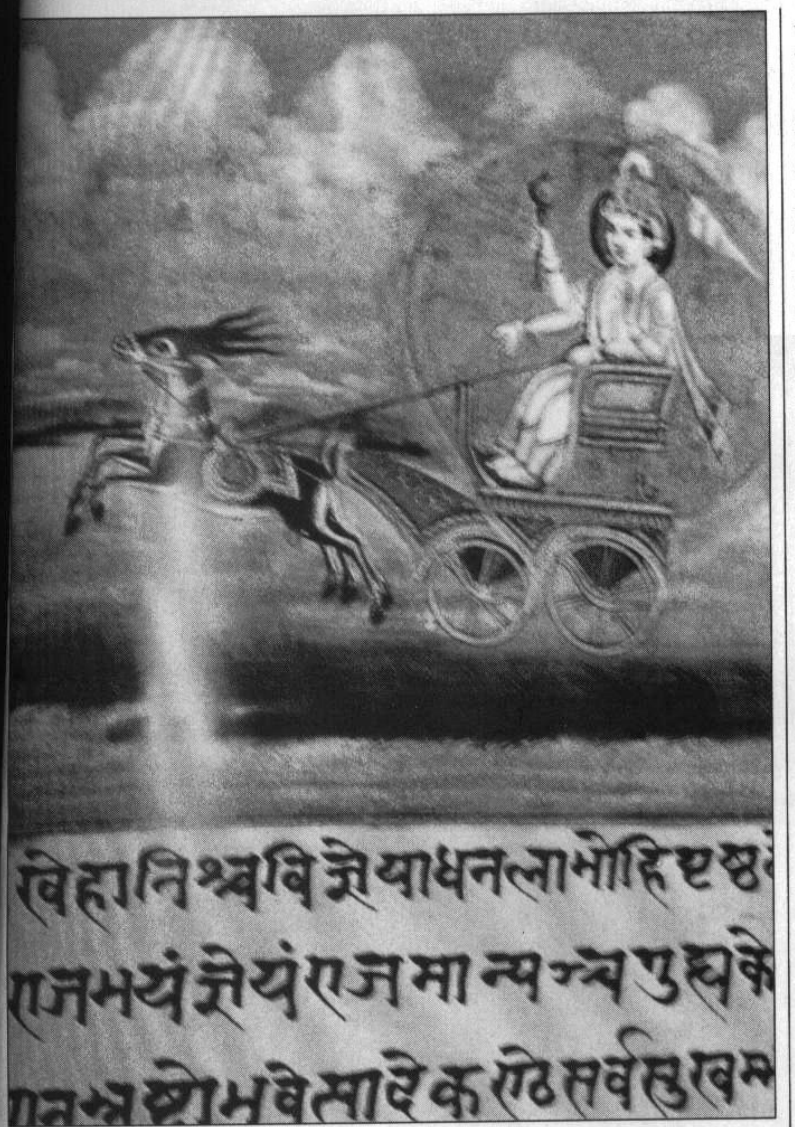
The Popol Vuh, sacred to the Mayans, unequivocally states: ...men came from the stars, knowing everything, and they examined the four corners of the sky and the Earth's round surface." Yet another book, the Chilam Balaam, is even more explicit: "Beings descended from the sky in flying vessels...white men in flying rings, who can touch the sky."

There are indications that something very strange took place on our very own continent hundreds of thousands of years ago, before humans arrived on this continent (according to the canon of anthropology). Santa Mar'a Canyon holds evidence pointing toward the existence of a culture of intelligent beings who raised cattle, built weapons, and practiced funeral rites—one million years ago. If we decide to stick with what academia has to say, in no way could these beings have been humans. Were they survivors of an "Elder Race?" Marooned spacemen, or colonists trying to tame a new planet? During the Prehistory Conference held during 1962 in Rome, Dr. W. Matthes presented the oldest carvings known to exist, created by a forgotten artist two hundred thousand years ago, when humans had allegedly just discovered the use of fire.

Curious details suggesting the visit of extraterrestrial travelers can be found in the presence of technological items

Many of the totem figures in Hawaii could easily be said to resemble spacemen complete with some sort of helmet and protective gear. (Photo: Tim Beckley)

The Ojo Guareña complex, weaving its way for miles into the earth, poses an undecipherable riddle. In his book *En Busca de la Historia Perdida* (In Search of Forgotten History), Spanish author and filmmaker Juan G. Atienza states that some of the cave system's many entrances are considered "evil," and the local farmers will not till the soil near them nor even come close to them.



Celestial visitors in "chariots" can be found in the Mahabarata and in other ancient epics.

which are far too advanced for the cultures in which they are discovered. Sandal-and- loincloth cultures in the Americas and the Middle East appear to have mastered the creation of aluminum (refined from bauxite—a highly complex process) and platinum (which requires temperatures of thousands of degrees). Yet these very same civilizations clearly had no knowledge of more elemental technology, such as the wheel. Was this knowledge "imparted" by non-terrestrial creatures to a "priesthood" of primitive humans, who surrounded the knowledge (and perhaps the non-terrestrial devices needed to apply it) under the panoply of esoteric knowledge and mystery cults?

Perhaps some of the alien teachers stayed behind on Earth, out of sight, in an advisory capacity. Peru's Cuzco Museum holds a most interesting exhibit which has attracted much anthropological interest but little in the way of answers: it is a high-domed skull with impossibly large eye-sockets, found in a Peruvian archaeological site. Experts affirm that the cranial deformation was not artificial (cranial deformation was widely practiced by Mesoamerican and South American cultures) nor does it appear to be that of an abnormal human. Could a Peruvian museum hold the only tangible proof of alien visitation on Earth?

The Sahara, a warm subtropical desert, occupies almost 3 million square miles. Its relative humidity can go as low as twenty percent and strong dry winds like the harmattan contribute to the evaporation. Such inhospitable conditions make survival an almost insu-

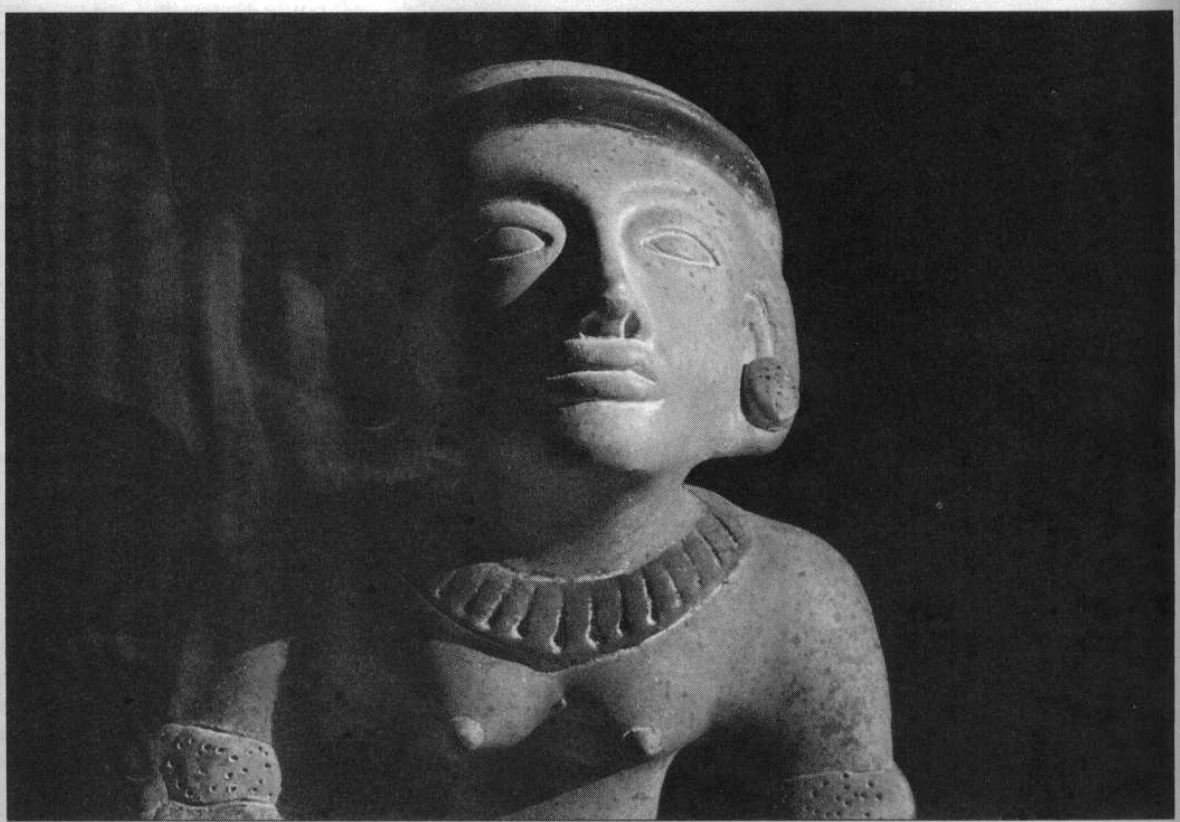
One of the petroglyphs found at Cueva de Las Maravillas, on the island of Hispaniola (Santo Domingo) depicts a bearded figure together with an artifact that appears to be suspended in mid-air. Images found in Taino caves on other parts of the island represent flying objects with dangling ladders.

perable barrier for animals such as gazelles, antelope, jackals and the varieties of reptiles and insects that can be found there.

Yet humans have tenaciously clung to life in this environment, and appear to have done so far back in history when the climate wasn't so harsh. These human cultures, now lost to us, nonetheless left behind a number of beautiful and disturbing drawings that have created controversy since their discovery.

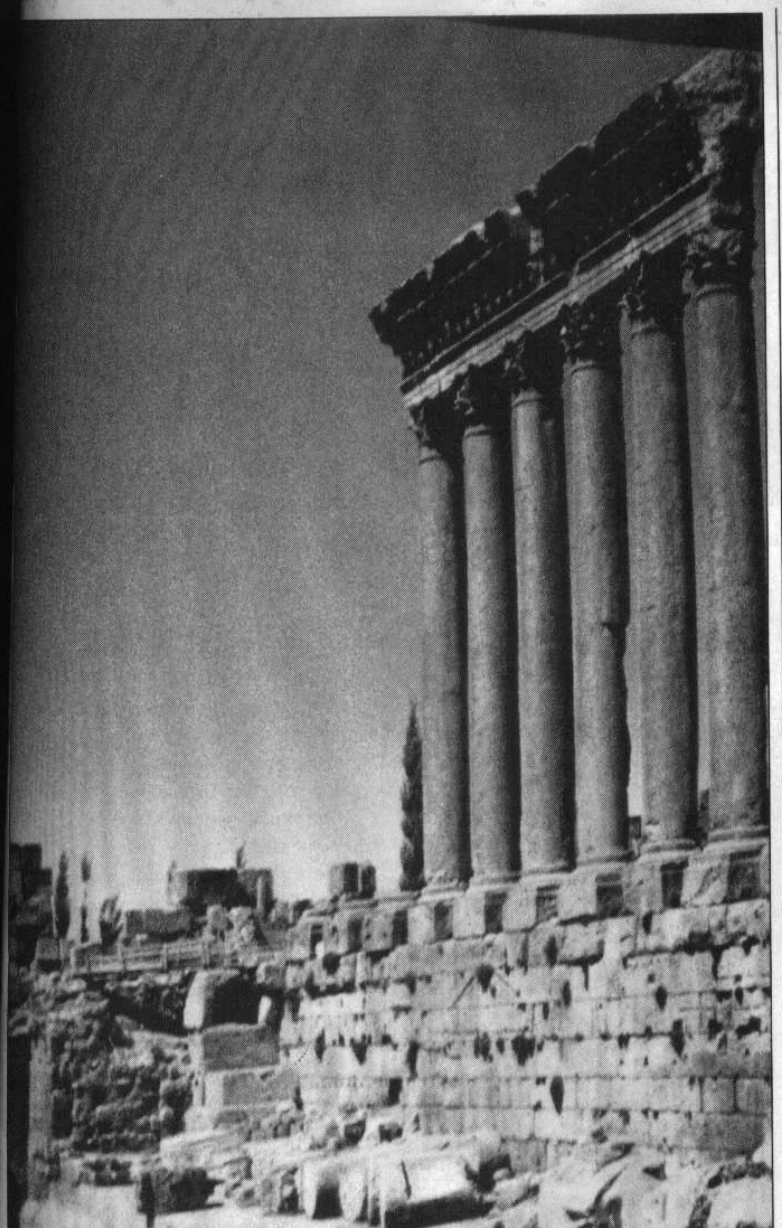
Almost nine thousand years ago, one of these cultures flourished on Djebel Zenkekra in the Tassili-n-Ajjer Massif, a natural, fortress-shaped mountain formation that provided relief from the unforgiving desert sun during the day and shelter against the animals that roamed the Neolithic swamps which would later turn to desert.

The Tassili Culture, for want of a better name, bequeathed to posterity a collection of 4000 images, painted in a variety of colors unavailable to their counterparts in the Altamira and Lascaux Caves: using flints for brushes, dark reds, yellows, and even shades of green supplemented the basic reds and whites available to the prehistoric cave artists. Everyday life was their subject matter—the endless cycle of hunting, battle, and domestic life was captured in stone, along with a gallery of figures which stand out in stark contrast to humans in their workaday poses. While



The Mayan Popol Vuh speaks of "visitors from the sky" with awe-inspiring powers. Alien explorers?

Several times, locals have seen white discs about 30 feet in diameter being unloaded from large US cargo planes at the airports serving Pine Gap. Those discs had the USAF emblem on them.



The Romans built their Temple of the Sun above the massive stones of Baalbek. Did alien masons carve out these giant stones for an unknown purpose?

there are many such examples of cave art in other rock shelters and ledges throughout the upper reaches of the Sahara, the ones on Djebel Zenkekra hold a special fascination.

Discovered by the 19th century French explorer Henri Lhote, these figures were so unusual he dubbed them "Martians," explaining "their contour is simple, unartistic, and with rounded heads; their only detail is the double oval at the figure's centre, which evokes the image we currently have of Martians."

Lhote's round-headed denizens of the Red Planet were depicted by the primitive cave artists as wearing suits strongly reminiscent of those worn by our own astronauts on the Moon, down to the detail of the boots. Several hundred such drawings exist, scattered over many miles of desert: strange helmeted and antennaed figures, often floating in weightlessness as if the artist had been able to witness one of our modern spacewalks. Other images are of a technological bent, showing what could be taken as solar panels, space stations, floating spheres containing humanoid figures.

Unwilling to be caught up in the ancient astronaut craze, anthropologists have suggested that the Tassili "roundheads" are merely ceremonial dancers or priests wearing empty gourds over their heads. The problem with this rational approach is that the agricultural know-how and resources to grow pumpkins were nonexistent in North Africa at the time the Tassili drawings were created, and would probably not have been available for another thousand years.

Could extraterrestrial visitors have included the then lush Tassili region among their forays in ancient human history? Dozens of books in an equal number of languages have provided circumstantial evidence of non-human in-

An example of the clarity of paleolithic cave art.

tervention in earthly affairs. Biblical texts speak of the "sons of God" attracted by the "daughters of Men," Mayan bas-reliefs depict what could be a space traveler, and so forth. But it is this forsaken complex of African drawings that provides a graphic illustration or a similar nature.

In 1976, braving desert sands, Polisario terrorists, and suspicious Algerian security forces, Spanish researchers Jorge Blaschke, Rafael Brancas and Julio Martõnez reached the Tassili Massif to conduct a systematic study of the enigmatic cave drawings. In the course of their research, they were stunned to find a clear depiction of a helmeted and suited figure, linked by a tether to the interior of a large, spherical object, leading three human females toward it. Dr. Martínez noticed that the artist had taken great care in showing the women: one of them an adolescent, the other a mother carrying a child, and the third a visibly pregnant woman. Could this be representative of the genetic experiments which are allegedly still being conducted in our days by large-headed Greys.

UFOs still make their presence felt in the modern Sahara. Aimé Michel mentions a sighting made at Ouallen, some 250 miles west of the Tassili-N-Ajjer, in 1942. A group of meteorologists spotted an object at an altitude of 18,000 ft. which they described as a revolving "planet." The object remained above them for two days before disappearing. Cigar-shaped objects were reported on numerous occasions throughout Algeria in the 1950's—the French air base at Tessalit (Algeria) mistook a low-flying UFO for a DC-3 about to land. The mysterious light made a characteristic 90° turn, and climbed into the night sky, vanishing from sight. Even the 1976 Spanish expedition was treated to a UFO sighting near the desert airstrip of In Salah on its way to Tassili.

The examples of cave art found in the Spanish caverns of Ojo Guareña and Altamira, and the French ones at Lascaux and Font de Gaume, have proven that our distant ancestors were able to represent what they saw with a clarity and simplicity that is stunning to twentieth century eyes. This skill extends to depictions of things that anthropologists and archaeologists often find troublesome: equally faithful representations of domed objects, some of them in threes, others with legs or antennae.

The small French village of Le Cabrerets lies next to the impressive Pech Merle Cavern—a colossal labyrinthine complex almost a mile long. Using a red pigment, Cro-Magnon artists depicted on one of its walls a being that would fall perfectly into Dr. Padilla's taxonomy: it has an enormous bald head, an unusually pointed chin, no ears, and its eyes are represented as elongated slits which taper toward its temples. The straight lines crossing the figure appear to indicate that it was wounded or slain by caveman spears, while a drawing of a hat- shaped object appears floating over the creature's head. Nor is Pech Merle an oddity: Twenty miles away, another cave, Cougnac, contains a similar representation of a wounded or slain creature.

Lest we think that Cro-Magnon artists lacked a flair for depicting the human form, it should be noted that other French caves, such as Rouffignac, contain clearly recognizable human figures, including what seem to be mask-wearing humans. The Pech Merle and Cougnac "dead men" are clearly something else. Archaeologists tell us that these ancient images were drawn at the beginning of the Magdalenian Period—some twenty thousand years ago.

The Ojo Guareña complex, weaving its way for miles into the earth, poses an undecipherable riddle. In his book En Busca de la Historia Perdida (In Search of Forgotten History), Spanish author and filmmaker Juan G. Atienza states that some of the cave system's many entrances are considered "evil," and the local farmers will not till the soil near them nor even come close to them. Contained precisely within one of these "evil" points of access is an ancient petroglyph of what could only be, astounding though it might seem, a representation of the helicoidal structure of DNA.

But the Old World certainly does not have a monopoly on these paleolithic enigmas. North America has also provided its share of enigmatic prehistoric drawings. A particularly impressive one can be found at Canyonlands National Park, in Utah. There, a duo of unusual creatures (remarkably similar to those depicted at Tassili) is engaged in strange activity: one of them appears to be pointing an item at the ground—a flashlight? Farther south, an artist of Mexico's Tlatilco culture drew a perfect image of a little man who gives the impression of wearing boots and a square helmet.

Petroglyphs found in caves both on the island of Hispaniola and in Puerto Rico often represent highly unusual images, such as hirsute, bearded male figures, hooded faces, beings with what appear to be hoses connecting their heads to their backs, and even more disturbing depictions. One of the petroglyphs found at Cueva de Las Maravillas, on the island of Hispaniola (Santo Domingo) depicts a bearded figure together with an artifact that appears to be suspended in mid-air. Images found in Taino caves on other parts of the island represent flying objects with dangling ladders.

When even steadfast UFO naysayers like the late Carl Sagan are willing to concede that alien visitations in the remote past cannot be dismissed out of hand, can we still believe that this evidence, which is there for anyone to see, is simply a misinterpretation of conventional events, seen from a primitive human perspective? Or can we lend credence to the ancient Sumerian and Babylonian stories of divine beings coming down to earth to teach humans the rudiments of civilization? The subject will remain open to endless debate, unfortunately, for the foreseeable future.

El Caracol, a Mayan "observatory" in Yucatan.

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CRUM

Crashed Spaceships ■ Injured Aliens ■ Power Failures ■ Unexplained Skyquakes!

In Australia... Strange Things are Happening

by Tim Swartz

Thousands of Australians have been amazed recently by the waves of unidentified flying objects seen in the skies over this island country. While Australia has seen plenty of UFO activity in the past, the sheer number of current reports has the local investigators surprised.

The Adelaide Sunday Mail reported a "Spectacular sighting in Gladstone Queensland," On May 24, 1996, "A disc-shaped blue spinning object" hovered over several Gladstone homes. Houses vibrated and shook "as if in a earthquake." Gladstone police received several calls from anxious residents about a light seen "moving and changing colors in the sky."

On the weekend of June 22, 1996, a "squadron" of five bright orange spheres overflew Melbourne, according to the Melbourne Sunday Sun-Herald. Residents of Chelsea and Franston spotted five UFOs moving swiftly over their towns. The same night, Ross Dowe of Australia's National UFO hotline received 20 calls from people in the town of Cranbourne, reporting a V-shaped formation of five orange lights passing over their neighborhood.

On June 24, Margie Colburn and her daughter Samantha, watched a bright light approaching their house and heard a noise like a helicopter. They realized it was a round disc which was accompanied by a small black helicopter. The UFO then proceeded to land in her backyard, which is a very small area. Margie switched off the dining room light to get a better view

The saucer was the size of a small car, and appeared to be made of shiny metal. She was amazed how it could have come down without touching the clothes line or the trees. The helicopter that accompanied the craft hovered over the other side of the house as if watching the landed disc. The daughter went to her room to look out a window. As

The saucer was the size of a small car, and appeared to be made of shiny metal. She was amazed how it could have come down without touching the clothes line or the trees. The helicopter that accompanied the craft hovered over the other side of the house as if watching the landed disc.

she looked, the moon reflected on it making it look like shiny, silver paper. The object then rose to eye level and Samantha saw yellow-orange lights swirling over the UFO's surface. It then went over the house and flew off to the west followed by the helicopter.

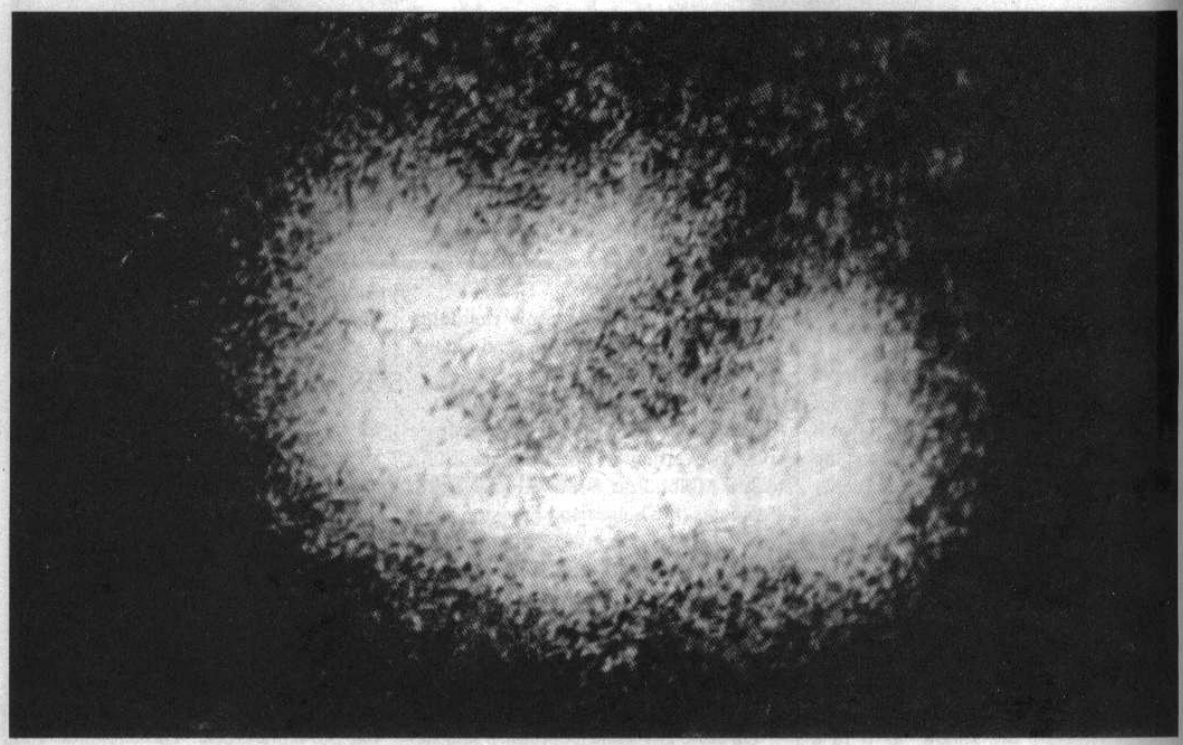
Min Min Lights

The so-called "Min Min" lights have been observed in the Australian outback for around 100 years. Aboriginal legend speaks of many deaths of those who chose to follow or chase the strange lights. Victor Cambell, a stockman at Mirtna Station near Clermont, Queensland has seen the lights on several occasions. His latest sighting occurred in 1996. "It was about 4:30 AM, the horses got spooked about something, and then a blinding light appeared overhead and lit up about a square mile of land. It was a UFO...it hovered over our heads. If I had a rifle, I could have fired a bullet at it," Victor said. The light, described as bluish-white, hung over the heads of the frightened men, then suddenly zipped away as soundlessly as it arrived.

Cattle mutilations have also been reported in the same areas. A large bull, with its tongue and cheeks missing, was found near the Belyando River in Queensland shortly after local aborigines saw Min Min lights zig-zagging in the sky over the river. Other cattle have been found with their hearts and various other organs missing.

Mysterious Earthquake

On May 28, 1993 the Leonora-Laverton area northwest of Perth was shaken by an unusual earth tremor which registered 3.7 on the Richter scale. At first it was officially recorded as an earthquake, the first recorded in that part of Australia since records began in 1900. However, reports from truck drivers and residents from the nearby town of Laverton indicate that something other than an earthquake had occurred that



Is there something in the window? Zoom shot of craft over Perth.

The so-called "Min Min" lights have been observed in the Australian outback for around 100 years. Aboriginal legend speaks of many deaths of those who chose to follow or chase the strange lights.

IS PINE GAP THE NEW AREA 51?

evening.

Witnesses said that an unusual fireball had been seen flying from north to south. It emitted a whistling sound, and traveled much too slow to be a meteorite. "It looked like a big ball of fire, except it didn't have a tail like a shooting star," reported a worker from the Erliston Sheep station.

After flying over the heads of astonished eyewitnesses, the fireball disappeared over the horizon and appeared to explode with an enormous flash of light accompanied by a huge fireball rising vertically into the air. The earthquake followed.

Harry Mason, who has worked extensively in the Leonora- Laverton area favors the meteorite impact idea, however, he points out that based on the descriptions, it could have been a cruise missile with a one kiloton nuclear warhead, which causes an explosion roughly equivalent to 3.7 on the Richter scale. Suspicion soon centered around some new, unwelcome neighbors.

In April, one month before the Australian tremor, the Japanese cult, Aum Shinrikyo (best known for their sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway system) purchased a 500,000 acre sheep ranch with a known uranium deposit at Banjawarn, only a few miles north of the tremor. The cult had attempted to buy weapons from the former Soviet Union, and some Australian officials have openly speculated that the cult had tested either a small nuclear device or some other high energy weapon over the Australian outback. Subsequent flyovers in 1995 revealed no cratering or unusual radiation in the areas of epicenter.

UFOs on the Nullarbor Plain

The site of nuclear tests in the 1950s, the Nullarbor Plain in Southern Australia has seen numerous incredible UFO sightings over the years. The Nullarbor Plain is a dry, almost featureless landscape with little rainfall occurring during the year. The plain extends 180 miles west and 150 miles east of the state border between South and West Australia. The name Nullarbor means "no trees." Only saltbushes and bluebushes survive the intense desert climate.

One of the most interesting UFO reports to come out of the Nullarbor Plain involved a Australian National Railway diesel train. In December of 1984, Gary Edwards was working for the Australian National Railways Commission as a Station Assistant Class 3. One night at approximately 2330 hours he was listening to the radio telephone, (the only communications link to train control in Port Augusta in South Australia) when he heard the train driver say to train control, "There is a bright light above us and we are losing power." Then the driver said, "It has moved beside the engine, went up and done a steep dive to the right." The UFO appeared to crash into the nearby sandhill with a glow in the distance. The engines power then came back on, and it continued its run with no further problems.

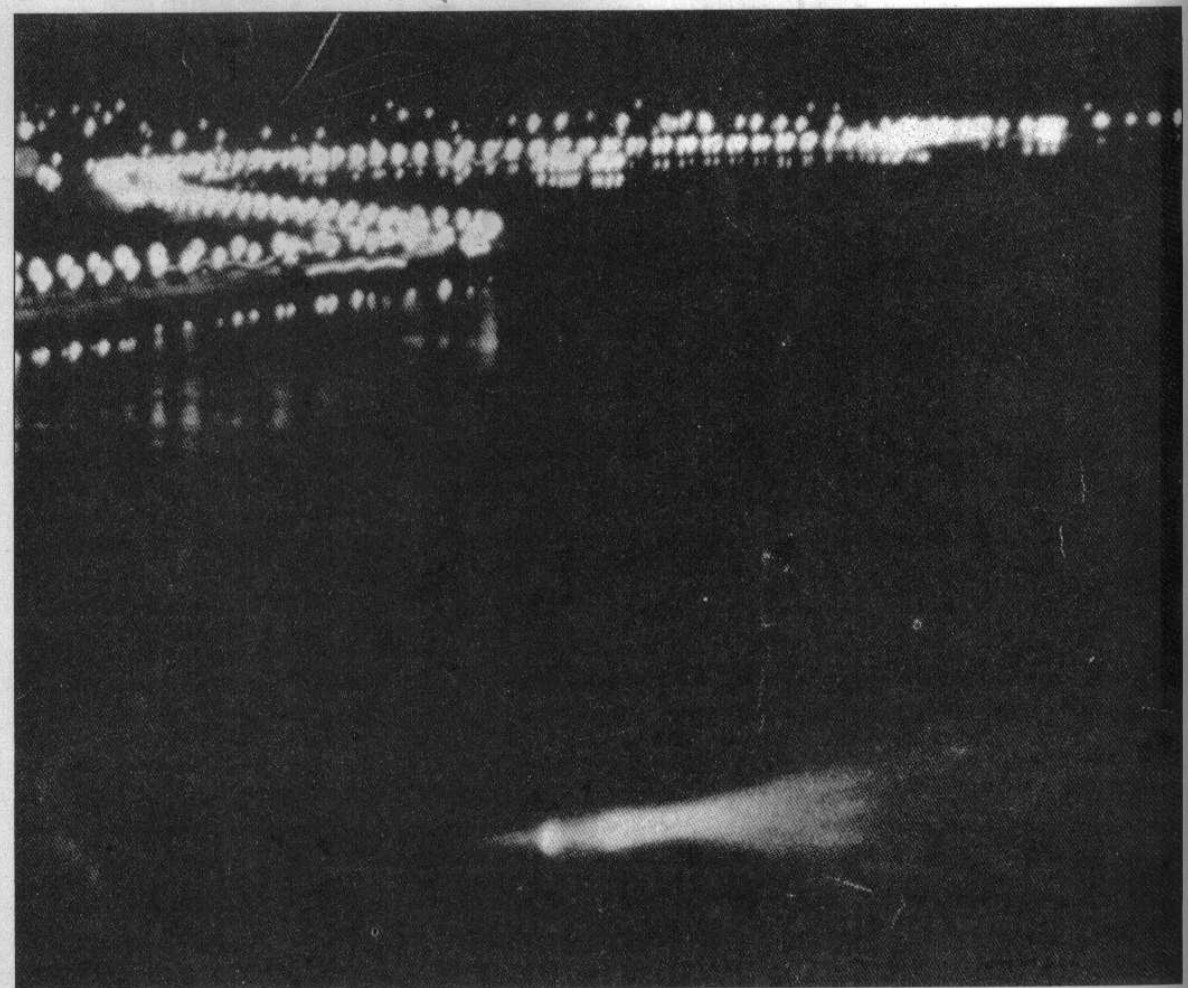
When the train finally arrived at Cook railway siding, it was almost three hours overdue. According to Gary, the train driver and fireman (assistant) were clearly shaken up by the incident. So much so, that both men shortly thereafter quit their jobs and disappeared. John Beattie, a spokesman for the Australian National Railways told investigators, "We don't know what it was, or what caused the diesel train to lose power. The two train operators say they experienced the power loss at the same moment they spotted the light. Because they have much experience of travelling through the outback, the light must have been very unusual for them to report on it."

The event occurred at the Barton railway siding which is close to the Woomera, joint USA/AUS prohibited area. Local rumors after the incident spoke of a crashed flying saucer recovered at the site and taken into the Woomera area. The next day the sighting made national news on ABC radio and in local newspapers. However, the report never made inter-

Local rumors after the incident spoke of a crashed flying saucer recovered at the site and taken into the Woomera area. The next day the sighting made national news on ABC radio and in local newspapers. However, the report never made international headlines, and the sighting was soon forgotten.

national headlines, and the sighting was soon forgotten. To this day, Gary Edwards wonders what it was that frightened his two colleagues so much that both gave up good jobs and vanished.

This has not been the first UFO report to come from the Nullarbor Plain. In 1977 two men, one an American, were on the Eyre Highway near the border between South and West Australia when they saw a purple-green fireball crash nearby. Upon arriving at the site, they found a strange round craft with an open doorway. When they entered the craft, they found two creatures, one was dead and the other injured, uttering a light squealing noise. Both creatures were described as being about four and a half feet tall with pot bellies, long thin arms and large black eyes. Neither being had hair or ears.



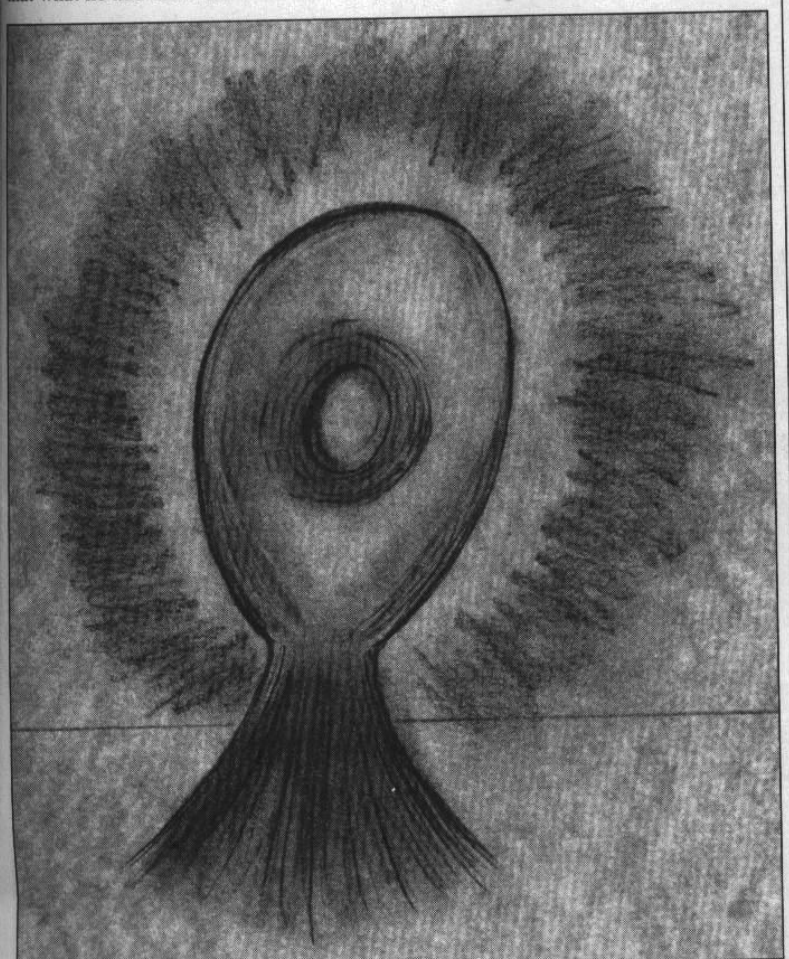
Rocket-shaped UFO darts over Perth.

Upon arriving at the site, they found a strange round craft with an open doorway. When they entered the craft, they found two creatures, one was dead and the other injured, uttering a light squealing noise.

When the men emerged from the wreck, military personnel on the scene arrested both, and took them away from the crash site. The American disappeared, perhaps because he was AWOL from the armed services. And the Australian, who was also a soldier, was put in custody for two weeks and persuaded that what he had seen was a normal aircraft crash.

UFO Incident on the Eyre Highway

Probably the most famous incident at the Nullarbor Plain was the January 21, 1988 event where a car on the Eyre Highway was harassed by a UFO. The family involved was from Perth, Faye Knowle and her three sons: Patrick, Sean and Wayne. The four had been on a trip to visit relatives in Melbourne. The incident occurred before daylight after the family left the Madura Roadhouse and travelled east towards Mundrabilla. As they were driving on the Eyre Highway they noticed a bright white light ahead of them on their side of the highway. As they got nearer they could see it was a large glowing object hovering just above the road. Sean, who was driving, had to swerve into the other lane to avoid colliding with the unknown object.



The police were given this drawing by the Knowles family, of the UFO they witnessed.

Soon after the near collision, they passed another car that had a bright object following overhead. This time Sean's curiosity got the best of him and he made a U-turn and sped back toward the west to see what the light was. After following for a few minutes the light changed course and started back toward the Knowles car. Sean again turned around and drove east. The object quickly overtook the car, which at this point was doing over 100mph in an attempt to elude the strange light. Suddenly, the object landed on the top of the 1984 Ford Telstar with a loud thud. Patrick said the object seemed to grab the car and began to pull it up.

"We were going silly, something was going into our heads," explained Faye Knowles. "It felt like we were dying and our voices were distorted as if we were talking in slow motion." Faye rolled down her window and looked out at the object which she described as a bright white light with a yellow center, "like an egg in a cup." Faye then reached overhead and touched the bottom of the object. "It felt like a warm sponge," Faye recounted later. Suddenly the object released the car and it crashed to the roadway blowing out the right rear tire. After stopping the ear, the family ran and hid

Several times, locals have seen white discs about 30 feet in diameter being unloaded from large US cargo planes at the airports serving Pine Gap. Those discs had the USAF emblem on them.

in some nearby bushes until the UFO, which was making a sound like a transformer, flew away.

The family repaired the tire and left the scene as fast as they could. When the Knowles reported their incident to the Adelaide police, they found that the car was covered in a strange dark ash, had symmetrical dents on the car's roof, and that Faye Knowles' arm appeared to have been burnt and swollen. No explanation has ever been given to account for the Knowles family's frightening encounter on the Eyre Highway.

Secret Underground Bases

The United States has three major bases in Australia. One is in South Australia (Nurranger, near Woomera, T.N.) Another is in New South Wales, and the third (known as PINE GAP) is within 230 km (143 miles) of the geographical center of the continent, at the foothills of the southern slopes of the MacDonnell Range. This base is completely underground, with barely visible entrances to the surface. This Top Secret

The lights of Perth make an exciting setting for this UFO as it zooms in on its unknown target.

She says that when her husband went behind the house, she saw him talking to a very tall person dressed in a grey body suit. The figure disappeared as the wife approached.

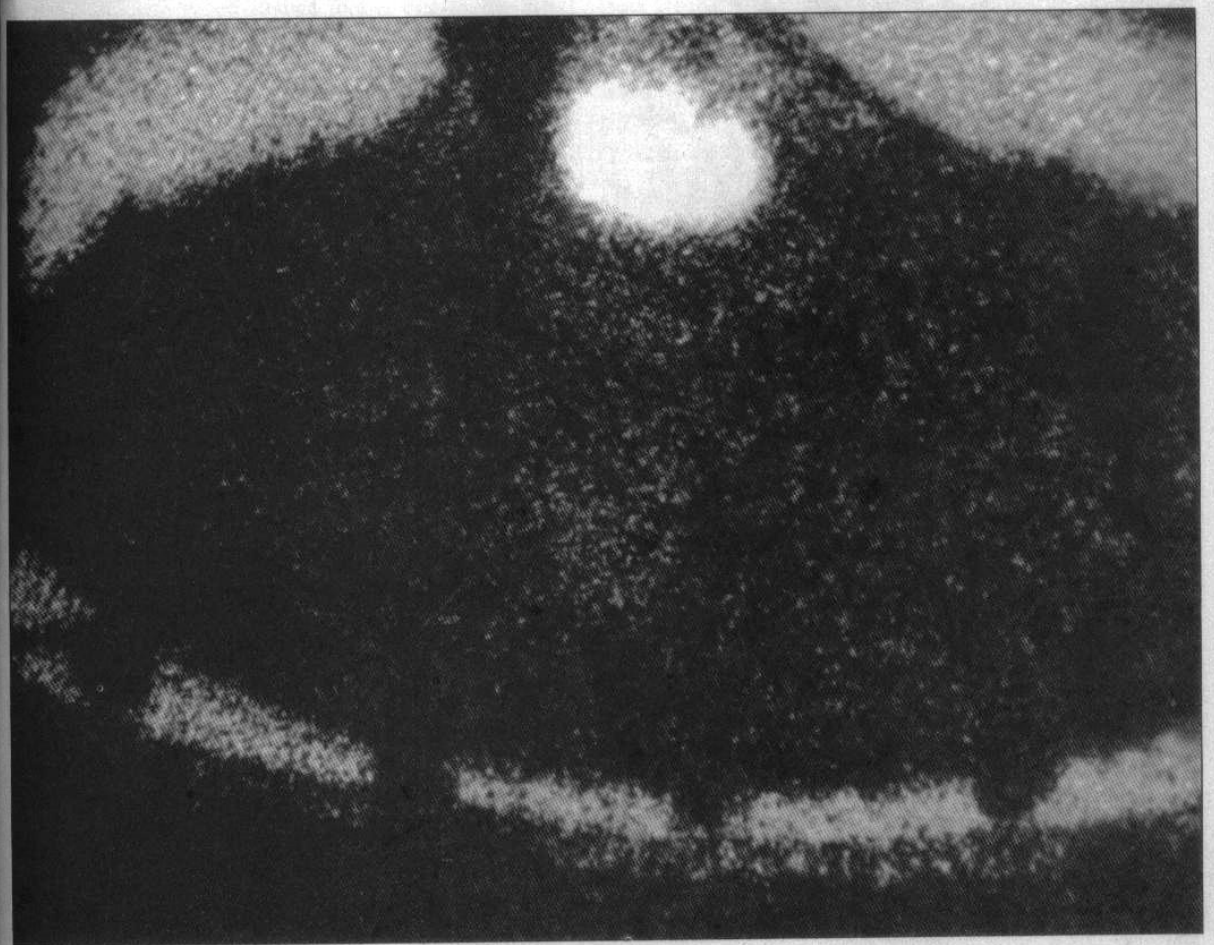
base is entirely financed by the United States Government, and is officially known as the Joint Defense Space Research Facility.

When the JDSRF was first initiated, its aim was scientific research for the supposed development of a space defense technology. It is now known that since its inception, its primary purpose was research into electromagnetic propulsion.

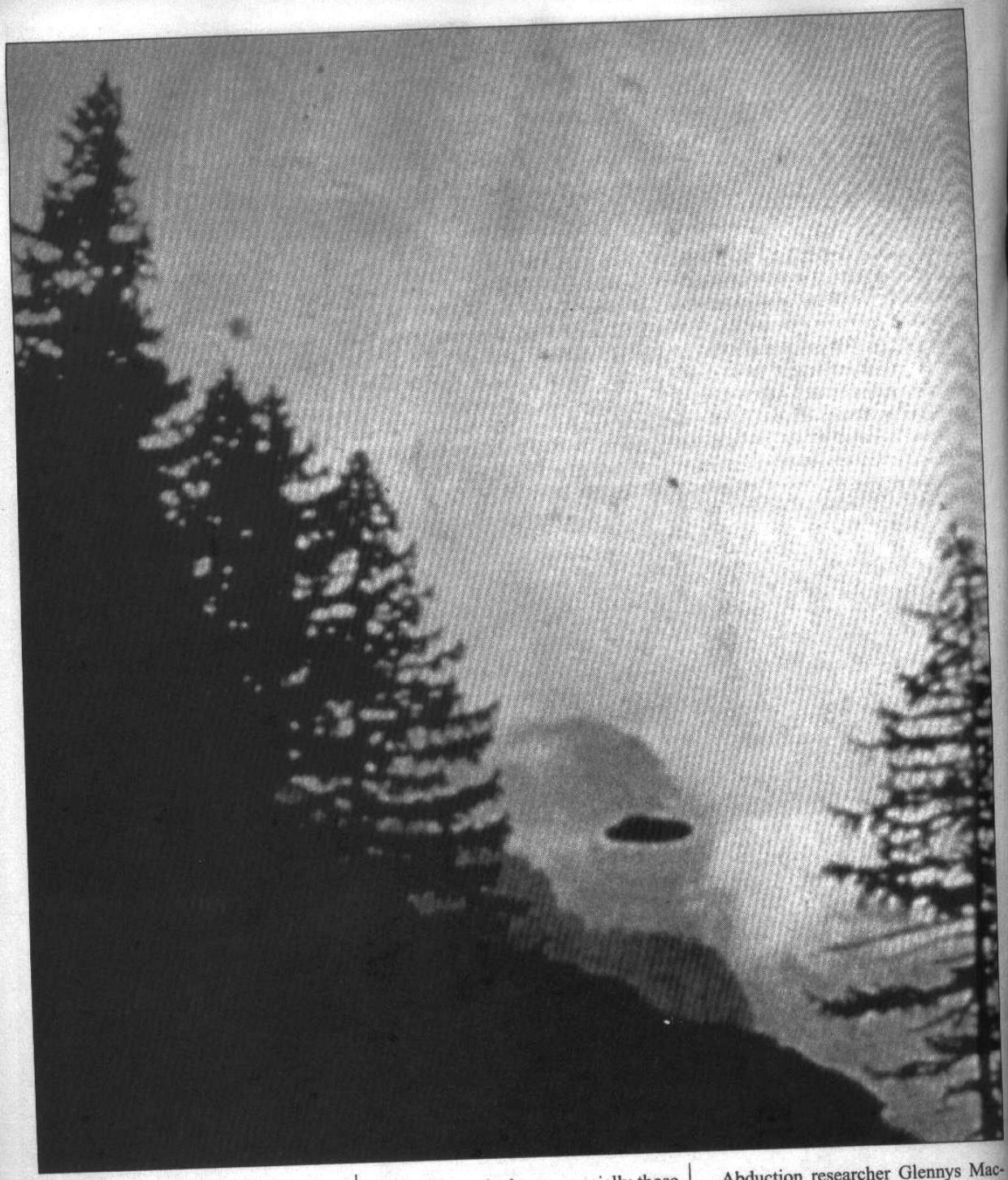
What exactly is Pine Gap? As strange as it may seem, even Australian Federal Parliament members do not know. Among the Cabinet members, only a small number of those who "need-to-know" have a vague idea of what this is all about. It's said that under Pine Gap is the deepest drilling hole in Australia—about 5 miles. Such a hole is likely used as an underground antenna able to recharge the batteries of submarines in the Pacific and Indian Ocean through ELF broadcasts. Such a gigantic antenna could be used to generate the gigantic stationary wave around the Earth.

Some reports state that Pine Gap has an enormous nuclear generator to supply energy to a new type of transmitter, as well as a high-powered, high-voltage plasma accelerator that may be used to transmit electric current, or even to produce a death- ray.

Several times, locals have seen white discs about 30 feet in diameter being unloaded from large US cargo planes at the airports serving Pine Gap. Those discs had the USAF emblem on them. It has been suggested that the captured



Disc over Perth. Observers say they could see movement in "port." (See accompanying photo with this article.)



saucers, originally kept at Area 51 in Nevada, have been moved to Pine Gap due to the public attention focused on Area 51 in the United States. The locals also say that an enormous amount of food is stocked in warehouses of what could well be a true multi-level underground city. Unverified reports say that employees on the base, especially those working on electromagnetic propulsion projects, have undergone brainwashing, and even had electronic devices implanted in their heads.

Australian Abduction Reports

Abduction researcher Glennys Mackay received an unusual report from a woman who related a number of strange incidents involving her husband. The woman claims to have seen her husband being levitated, and floated out the window. She saw circles of light in the yard behind the house, and found a flattened

About a week after the first encounter, Sally again woke in the early hours with the feeling she had to go outside. Again, there was a figure in the garden, but no UFO. The same tall, thin figure seemed to be surrounded by a bright mist.

area of grass the next day. She also says she has seen shadowy figures in the distance, but they disappear quickly.

She says that when her husband went behind the house, she saw him talking to a very tall person dressed in a grey body suit. The figure disappeared as the wife approached.

On Monday, April 14, 1996, Clennys received a call from the woman who related that she had gone out onto the front veranda and found strange footprints from the top step and along the veranda to the kitchen door. At the top step there is a large, heavy wire mesh fence which has been tied in place to keep the dogs and animals off the veranda. The woman sketched the prints and faxed the drawings to Glennys. The feet were nothing like Glennys had seen before. Measuring over two feet long with approximately 50 inches distance between each step. The first footprint started on the top step, evenly spaced through the mesh and around the veranda. It had been raining the day before. The unknown visitor had picked up soil on its feet and left good prints. The toes were extremely long and the feet very narrow. The husband denies having any unusual experiences, but does admit to having episodes of missing time.

On February 10th 1996 in the Huon Valley region, Tasmania, a bright light wakened fifty six year old Sally Maddock. A strange feeling compelled her to go outside. From the veranda she saw that the source of the light was a brilliant, elliptical shape in the paddock. There was a brilliant blue/white light and a metallic smell she could almost taste. Standing in the garden was a thin figure standing about six feet tall. The figure beckoned the witness with its left hand. Sally went into the garden, but became alarmed by the strange creature and returned to the veranda. She threw some furniture from the veranda, at which point the light went out and the figure disappeared.

About a week after the first encounter, Sally again woke in the early hours with the feeling she had to go outside. Again, there was a figure in the garden, but no UFO. The same tall, thin figure seemed to be surrounded by a bright mist. It seemed to be wearing a one-piece, silvery suit with a band around the waist. She was not sure if it covered the head, and she did not notice the lower legs. It seemed to have long eyes that wrapped around its head and sloped up at the outside. The ears looked flat and pointed. Standing to either side of the creature were two smaller, rounded figures. They were less than three feet tall, fat in the body with small arms and legs. They moved in a jerky fashion as they looked at the ground. One figure had a trowel- like instrument which it kept pointing at the ground. Sally had a inclination to follow the creatures, but she wisely retreated into the house and locked the door. After awhile she looked out the window, and the entities had vanished.

The mass sightings of UFOs over Australia continues unabated. UFO researchers are not sure how long this wave of unknown objects will continue to appear. Serious research by dedicated UFO investigators will no doubt focus more global attention on that UFO wave. However, any real answer to the reasons why Australia is experiencing it's largest UFO flap in decades, is still forthcoming.

One of the most frequently recurring places UFOs have been sighted over the years is near or around nuclear installations and missile silos. In fact, the modern UFO era actually began in 1947, shortly after both the U.S. and Russia had learned to split the atom and had thus created the means of destroying the world.

The "No Go!" Minuteman Missile Crisis

by Sean Casteel

Since the first days of the modern UFO era, there have been so many sightings close to nuclear installations that it has become an undeniable fact that, whoever the UFO occupants turn out to be, they have an obvious interest in the atomic weapons of both sides. Even after the end of the Cold War, they still seem to be sending us a message about the mind-boggling dangers involved in the merest contemplation of the use of our nuclear weapons.

An incident occurred in Montana in the year 1967 that is a classic example of the aliens' knowledge of and interest in our nuclear capabilities. Former Air Force First Lieutenant Robert Salas was on missile duty as deputy missile crew commander on the night of March 16 at a Minuteman Missile Launch Control Facility 60 feet underground when something happened that changed his view of reality forever.

"I had a commander," Salas told this magazine in an exclusive interview, "and we alternated sleep sessions, so he was asleep in the early morning hours when I got a call from one of my security guards upstairs. He said he and the other guards up there had been observing lights flying over the facility. They were not airplanes. And I think he even used the term 'UFOs,' but I kind of disregarded it. I wasn't a staunch believer then. And then about five minutes later he calls back, and this time he's really frightened. Very anxious. He says there's a UFO hovering right beside the front gate and it's glowing red. It was just a very reddish light.

"After I hung up with the guard," he continued, "I woke up my commander and was telling him about the phone calls. And as I told him, the missiles started shutting down. That is, they went 'No Go.' They couldn't be launched. This is very unusual, because we had nothing even remotely similar to missiles going 'No Go' like that without any reason. This was not just a power loss of the missiles, by the way. It was not that they lost electrical power at the sites. They actually just went into a condition where they couldn't be launched."

Meanwhile something similar was happening at another nearby installation, Salas said.

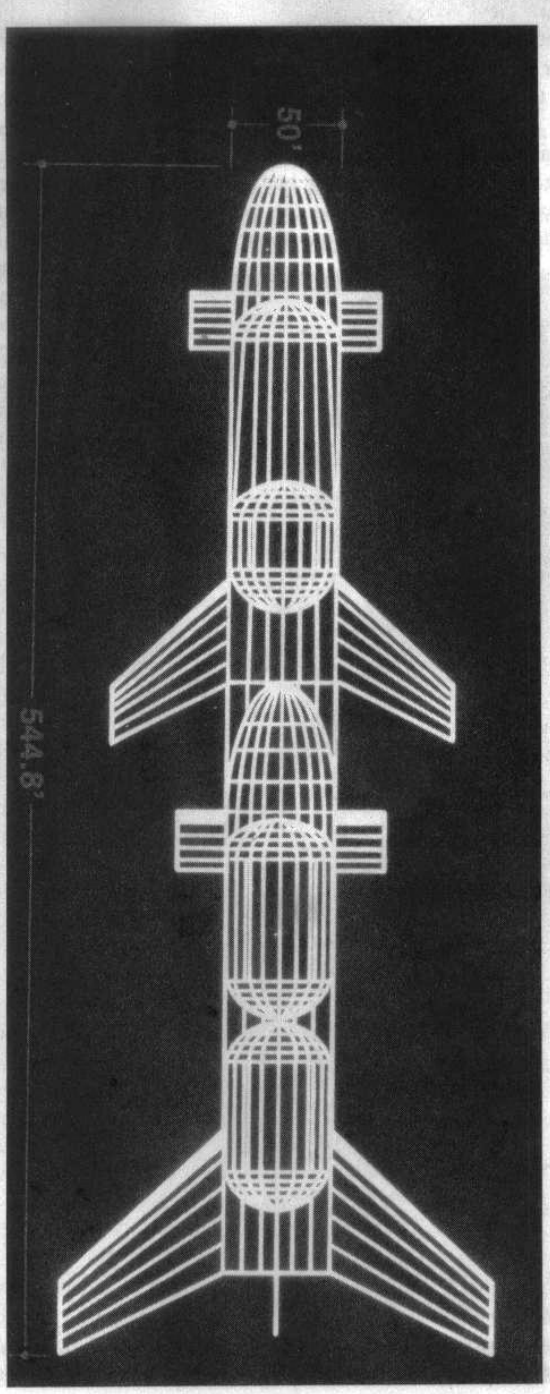
Even after the end of the Cold War, they still seem to be sending us a message about the mind-boggling dangers involved in the merest contemplation of the use of our nuclear weapons.

"Well, we reported this to our Command Post," he said, "and they told us that the same thing has happened at another site. And, sure enough, we talked to the other site's commander and he confirmed that yes, all ten of his missiles had shut down. There were also UFOs sighted at the launch facilities where the missiles are actually located. They're dispersed throughout the countryside there, away from the launch control center. So we're looking at somewhere close to 20 missiles being disabled at the same time that UFOs are being observed by military personnel."

After Salas and his crew were relieved later that day and flown back to Malmstrom Air Force Base, they were debriefed by Air Force officials, including an officer from the Air Force Office of Special Investigation, who were just as surprised as Salas and the others were by what happened.

"There was no hint or indication that this was any kind of an Air Force exercise," Salas said. "And the Squadron Commander and his deputy and everyone I talked to when we got back was just as surprised and flabbergasted at what had happened. So this was not an Air Force exercise. It was a classified incident. We were not to talk to anybody about it. I was there at the base for another three years and the incident was never discussed again. We were not debriefed about the investigation of it, and we couldn't even talk amongst ourselves about it."

Salas said he decided to talk about what happened 28 years later when he read UFO researcher Timothy Good's book Above Top Secret. Good's book contained a report on the incident at the other installation that Salas had been in contact with that night.



Salas' next move was to send a Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Air Force.

"I didn't mention anything about UFOs," he said. "And they declassified the incident and sent me an historical abstract, a unit history about the incident. So I did get copies of that. As a result of the FOIA requests, I also got copies of telegrams that went back and forth between the Air Force and the contractor. One of the telegrams said that this was an incident of grave concern to the Air Force."

Salas also contacted a couple of employees of the Boeing company who had been on the civilian contractor's investigating team.

"They verified that there was never a plausible explanation for this incident," he said.

Salas said that he has also contacted many of the other Air Force personnel involved in the Minuteman Missile incident and that they all confirm his version of events.

"In addition, we've got UFO reports that were made in 'The Great Falls Tribune,'" he said. "Reports were published in the 'Tribune' that were made by civilians living in the area all the way from early February through the end of March, 1967. I've got copies. As a matter of fact, one of the reports was by a state patrolman."

"We're looking at somewhere close to 20 missiles being disabled at the same time that UFOs are being observed by military personnel."

Meanwhile, across the country, another drama was unfolding that was the result of the events Salas had witnessed. World-renowned UFO researcher Raymond Fowler (who would go on to author numerous books on alien abduction, most notably his series of books on abductee Betty Andreasson Luca) was working at the time on the production board for the Minuteman Missile program as an employee for GT Sylvania.

"We were switching equipment around in the launch facilities all the time," Fowler said. "At that time, I was responsible for keeping track of the equipment, and I documented not only our equipment but everybody else's equipment. So the people at the site were telling me about the incidents. I wanted to know more, so I went to the Boeing representative who was at GT Sylvania at the time. He was always interested in showing how much he could find out about certain things. He knew the assistant base manager out there in Montana, so I asked him about what had happened and he said he could find out for me."

First Lieutenant Robert Salos was on missile duty when UFOs took control of the Montana launch control facility.

The call the Boeing representative made turned out to be anything but routine.

"He called out there," Fowler continued, "and I was watching his face as he talked to the assistant base manager. And when he hung up, he said it was a 'hot potato' and I should never have asked him to ask that question. He was really upset that I'd even had him call about it."

But curiosity about the UFO-related incidents continued to gnaw at Fowler, and he went on digging for more information.

"That wasn't the only incident," he said. "There were a lot of incidents going on out there. One of them involved a launch control facility officer who was going through on-the-job training and was becoming acquainted with all the different contractors. He came to GT Sylvania and he was with a contract administrator from the program office. They came by my desk and the contract administrator said, 'That's Ray Fowler there. He believes in UFOs. Ha ha.' And the officer said, 'wait a minute,' and he stopped. Then he told me about an incident where UFOs appeared over the base and were affecting equipment in the launch control facilities that he was in."

Fowler later discussed that same incident with the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the Chief Scientific Consultant for the Air Force on UFO matters.

"He told me that not only did it affect the equipment at the launch control facility," Fowler said, "but two of the ships appeared to land. They sent out strike

"Two of the ships appeared to land. They sent out strike teams to the assumed landing site, and their communications were jammed. Some F-106s were scrambled and their communications were jammed as well. The UFOs took off and couldn't be caught."

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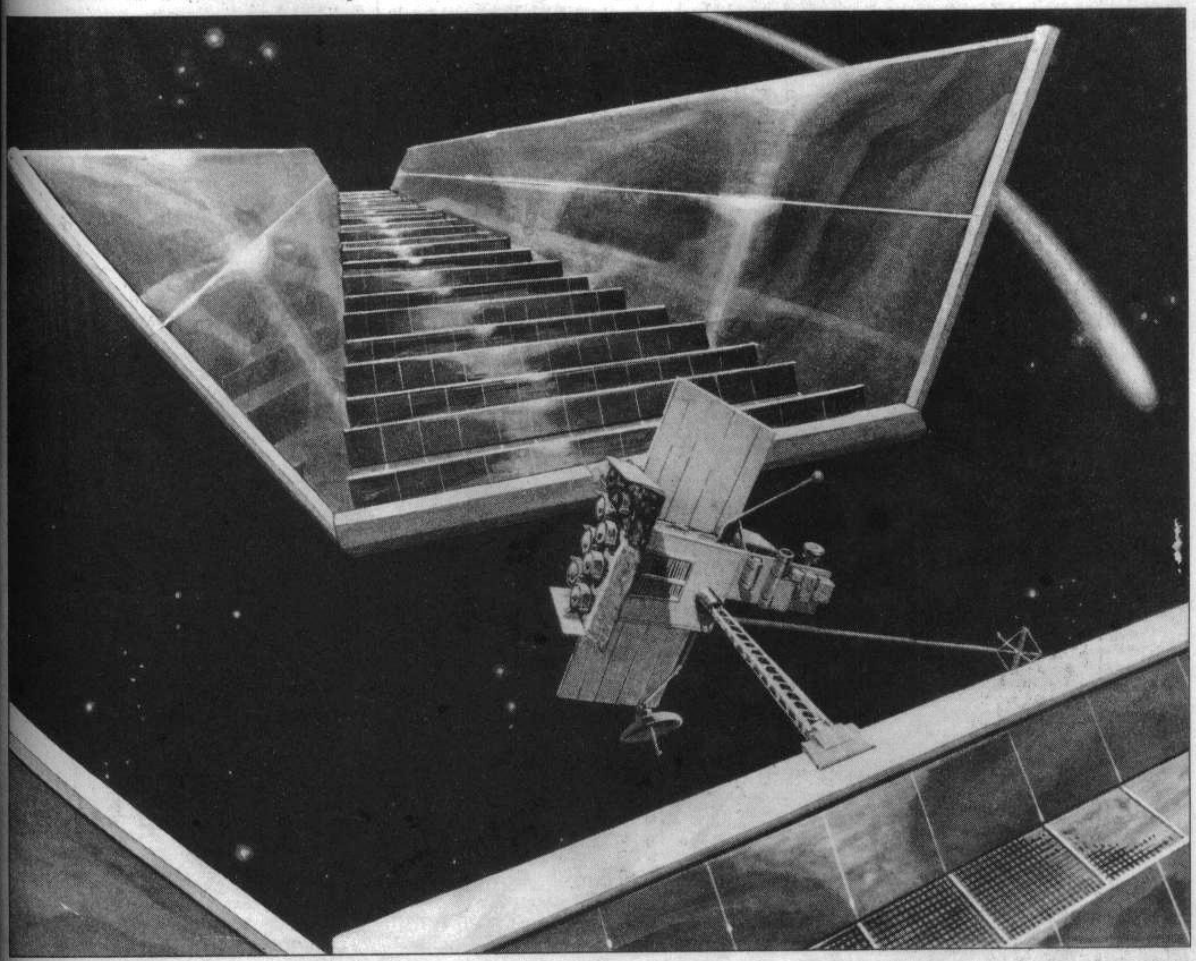
Soon Fowler's interest in the subject of UFOs nearly affected his career quite drastically.

"The Christian Science Monitor approached me and wanted to do an article on UFOs," he said. "I sat down with a reporter and went over the whole UFO problem. I started to mention, just in passing, some of the things that happened out at the Minuteman sites. A few days later, it was headline news in The Christian Science Monitor in this country and abroad about the Minuteman Missiles being disrupted by UFOs. Well, the next day, I was in my office and a friend of mine came in and said he was in the industrial manager's office and overheard a conversation with a Colonel William Coleman and the industrial manager of Sylvania. He sort of eavesdropped on the conversation and said, 'Sounds like you might be in trouble because the Air Force is going to send a letter of displeasure to your files.'



Some retired military personnel maintain that the UFO's ability to make our missiles malfunction is the main reason we developed a "Star Wars" technology as a global defense against extraterrestrial attack.

"The individual who was supplying me the most information told me that he couldn't supply me with anymore because their telephones were monitored periodically and someone in intelligence there had caught our conversation. And he was told not to talk about it anymore."

"The next day I was called into the office," Fowler went on, "and I was brought to someone who was just about to become the Vice-President and General Manager of Sylvania. They sort of read me the riot act and said that unless I could indicate that I found out this information from sources other than at Sylvania, I could be in trouble. I could lose my security clearance and everything. So I told them that Dr. Hynek had supplied some information to me and that some of this information was in the public domain and so forth. And it ended up that nothing was done. But I was given a stern warning not to report anything. Also, the individual who was supplying me the most information told me that he couldn't supply me with anymore because their telephones were monitored periodically and someone in intelligence there had caught our conversation. And he was told not to talk about it anymore."

Fowler said he understands the obvious need for secrecy.

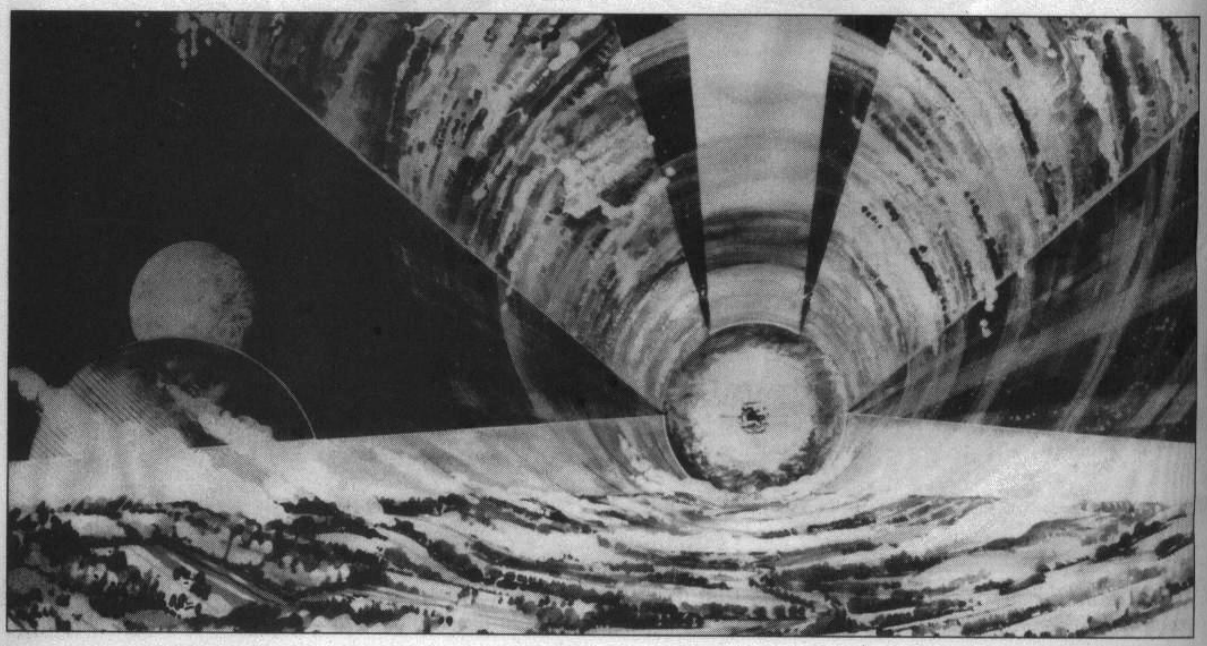
"Suppose Russia had some type of satellite or something that could send EMP [electromagnetic phenomenon] signals that could jam Minuteman and so forth," he said. "Information like that would be highly classified. You could call it a cover-up, but I think it would be covering up for the sake of national security. Now, you have a machine-like object and you don't know what it is or where it comes from. It has the ability to jam not only equipment in a Minuteman, but can also jam interceptors' and strike teams' radios and so forth—that's considered a threat to national security. You have the nation's primary weapons systems being compromised. So I can see that information like that would be classified."

Salas also explained his own viewpoint regarding the secrecy maintained about the incident.

"These weapons went down in a 'No Go' condition," he said, "and they were down for a good period of time, close to a day. That affected our national retaliatory strike capability. We lost that ability for that amount of time, and certainly it impacted our national security."

But Salas is still not happy with the Air Force's refusal to tell the public the truth.

"In 1969, the Air Force issued a letter," he said. "It's a statement saying that no UFO incident—as a result of both their investigations under Bluebook and by The Condon Committee—no reported UFO incident ever affected National Security. That's practically a verbatim quote. This was in 1969, and my incident happened in 1967. So the



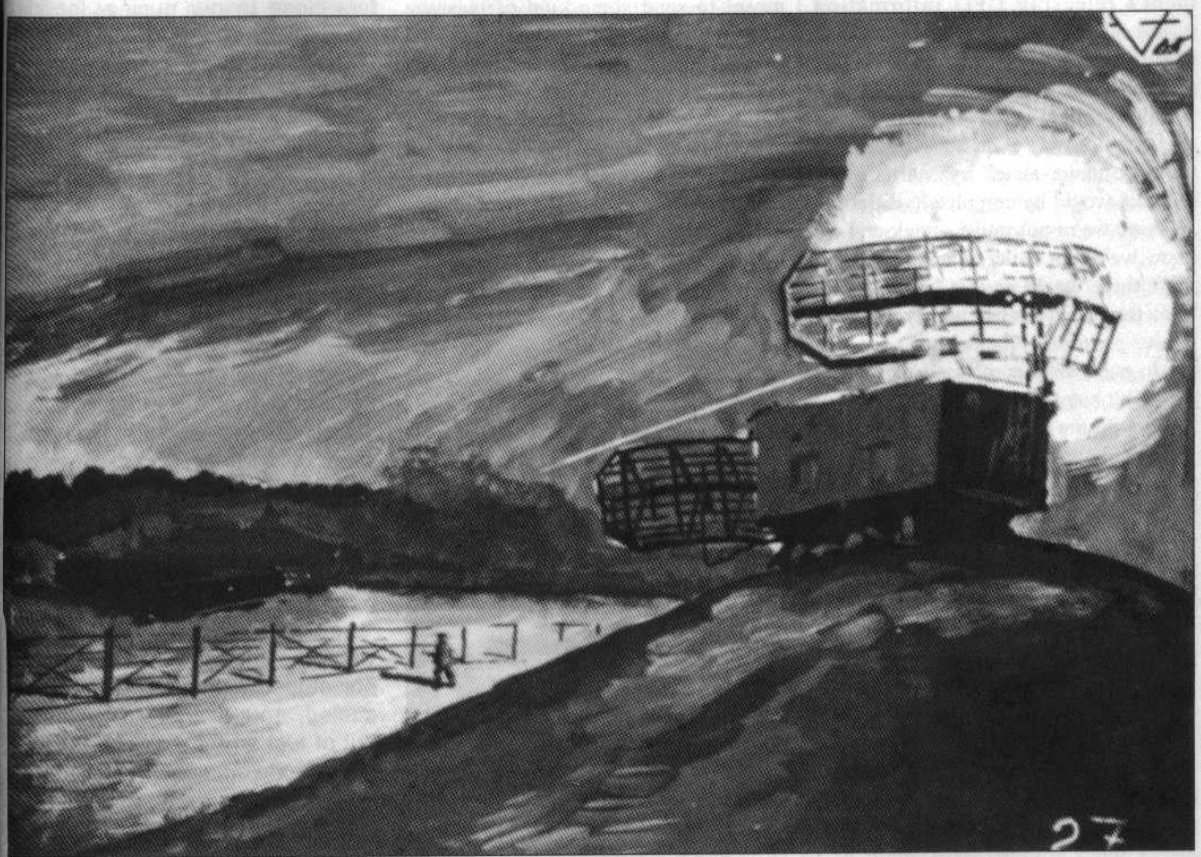
"These weapons went down in a 'No Go' condition," he said, "and they were down for a good period of time, close to a day. That affected our national retaliatory strike capability. We lost that ability for that amount of time, and certainly it impacted our national security."

Air Force blatantly misrepresented the facts there as far as I'm concerned. They're deliberately covering this thing up. This was a major incident, and I've got the correspondence where SAC headquarters says 'This was of very grave concern to this headquarters.'"

Salas said that this was not the attitude he had back in 1967.

"Then I was just following orders," he said. "This was classified and I didn't reveal anything. I basically put it out of my mind, or tried to. But now what I'm concerned about is that the government is holding this classified and lying about it even though this is something of great public interest. If these things are extraterrestrial—and I don't see how we can draw any other conclusion—then that fact alone is of general interest to the public. The reason I'm talking about it now is because I think the government should be forthcoming about what they know about UFOs in general.

"We've got probably a small group of individuals in government," Salas went on, "who are controlling this information. And who the heck knows what they're doing with it? Let's just speculate, for example, that they have gotten ahold of some kind of alien technology. Do we want just a small group of people to have that technology? And do with it what they



All of a sudden the night air was shattered by a tremendous blast from the UFO as it fired a powerful beam of light that destroyed the antenna at an Air Defense Radar Station near Samar in Russia on the night of September 13, 1990. (From the film *Cosmic Top Secret*)

"As they were on the flight line," Fowler continued, "this thing as big as a football field appeared over the end of the runway and just sat there. And I'm wondering if the B-36s had taken off, what would this thing have done?"

might or even communicate with extraterrestrials for the rest of us without our knowledge? This country's supposed to be based on the power of the people to have input into government actions, and instead we've got some mavericks in the government that have got this information. And who the heck knows what they're using it for? That's what I'm concerned about. It's a real concern about preserving democracy."

What about the idea that the government's releasing UFO information would cause a panic similar to the 1937 broadcast by Orson Welles of "The War Of The Worlds"?

Salas replied by saying, "The Orson Welles thing was a broadcast that said we were under attack by Martians. To me, this would be completely different. Because we're not under attack and we know we're not under attack. So I don't think there would be that kind of reaction, for one. Number two, you know, you've got to trust the public as a whole not to panic over something like this. I just don't buy that argument."

Why do the aliens take this apparent interest in our nuclear facilities to begin with? Both Salas and Fowler had ready answers. We'll let Fowler go first.

"It all goes back to what abductees are being told," he said. "That there's a symbiotic relationship between them and us. And if pollution, whether it be radiation or other types of pollution, is affecting life forms here, then somehow or other it affects them as well. So I would think that if that's true, what the abductees are being told—that mankind is going to become sterile and other life forms are going to become sterile and that what they're doing with the cattle mutilations and abductions are directly related to this problem—I would think that right on top of that list of problems is the release of atomic energy through the detonation of atomic bombs. You must remember that the whole modern UFO wave started when we were developing and exploding the first atomic bomb."

Salas spoke along similar lines.

"I honestly think, and this is pure speculation," he said, "but I really think the message is 'Let's do away with nuclear weapons. Don't play with these nuclear weapons. Because we're going to destroy ourselves with it.' I think they meant to send some kind of message like that. Because all they did was disable the missiles. I think they probably had the capability of doing a lot more, but that's all they did."

Perhaps Salas is right in saying we were spared something much worse that night in Montana in 1967. We can only hope that the "mercy" that was shown by the aliens is understood and appreciated by that small group Salas alludes to who so jealously guard the power to think and act for all of us. ■

Missile Episode Checklist

by Sean Casteel

Over the course of the years he spent working at GTE (which was at the time called GT Sylvania), as well as during the many years since when he devoted himself to UFO research full-time, Raymond Fowler has had access to information about numerous incidents similar to the events at the Montana Minuteman Missile launch control facility in 1967. He therefore had a few more stories to tell, and we thought we'd include some of them here for the sake of demonstrating how common UFO encounters close to our nuclear facilities really are.

✔ "I've talked to people who claimed that missiles were re-targeted after some of these events had taken place out there," he said. "I think that [UFO researcher] Linda Moulton-Howe's brother was stationed out there in one of these UFO flaps and he claimed the same thing—that one of the missiles in a silo had its targeting interfered with and the whole thing was re-targeted. In fact, he said, there was a UFO as big as a football field and the strike team wouldn't go near it when they were asked to. They actually disobeyed orders. And they said 'If you want to approach this thing, send someone else. We aren't going to go near it.'

"At the time," Fowler continued, "they also sent fighters in. And when the fighters came on line, the object just blinked out. The fighters circled around and started to run out of fuel on the way and then the lights came on again."

Another incident only recently came to Fowler's attention.

✔ "I was talking to a B-36 pilot the other day," he said, "and he told me that during the Suez Canal Crisis they were on alert. They had the

"During the year 1966, there was reportedly an odd coincidence involving unidentified flying objects and the United States Air Force Minuteman, the backbone of our strategic nuclear deterrent force. The incident at one of the launch facilities (a silo which houses a missile) reportedly occurred during a time when UFO sightings were quite numerous in the northwestern region of the United States."

B-36s on the runway, and they couldn't leave their planes, which were loaded with atomic weapons. Food was being brought to them because they couldn't leave the aircraft. He said they were ready to use nuclear weapons if Russia interfered in the Suez Canal Crisis.

"As they were on the flight line," Fowler continued, "this thing as big as a football field appeared over the end of the runway and just sat there. And I'm wondering if the B-36s had taken off, what would this thing have done?"

Another story involved the actual theft of nuclear materials.

✔ "A Lieutenant Colonel who was stationed at Pease Air Force Base told me that he was told by another officer of high integrity," Fowler said, "that a nuclear warhead had actually been taken. And in order to open one of those silos—there are three combination locks he said, and then you've got these really heavy, heavy covers. The strike team got the signal that something was there, but when they got there all the locks had been compromised and the thing was open. And a nuclear warhead was gone."

Fowler discussed yet another case he had heard about on NBC's *Dateline* program.

✔ "They investigated a case in Russia where a UFO came in and hovered over a missile base and an adjoining village," he said. "They interviewed a lot of the villagers who had seen it. They also interviewed the missile commander, and he said a countdown had been started when this huge disc-shaped object was seen standing on end over the base. The countdown only lasted a few seconds, but it was if Moscow had sent the correct code and the two launch facility officers had turned the keys and sent this missile on its way to the United States. Then the object left and the countdown stopped. Electronics people came in and took all the equipment and examined it, and there was nothing wrong with it.

"So you have enough of these incidents," Fowler concluded, "to indicate that someone is interested in preserving posterity as far as atomic weapons are concerned. Someone who is saying, 'We can do this' and who is maybe giving us a warning." ■

Raymond Fowler's Personal UFO Diary

As this material on the Minuteman Missile incident was being compiled, Raymond Fowler shared with us his own personal notes about some of the events that took place in 1966 and 1967. We have decided to present them here in their entirety, including the real names of the other participants, except where noted.

Malmstrom AFB, Montana (1966)

1. Sometime in 1966.

A. John Q (insisted that his name not be used and I now have forgotten it.)

After his discharge, John joined Sylvania in the Minuteman Program Office. I became friends as he worked in the same department. When he found out that I was interested in UFOs, he wrote the following statement out for me regarding his own experience with a Flight going down.

"During the year 1966, there was reportedly an odd coincidence involving unidentified flying objects and the United States Air Force Minuteman, the backbone of our strategic nuclear deterrent force. The incident at one of the launch facilities (a silo which houses a missile) reportedly occurred during a time when UFO sightings were quite numerous in the northwestern region of the United States. The incident itself involved the passing of all 10 missiles into a no go fault condition in which the missile cannot be launched. During the processing of this fault by the two members of the missile combat crew responsible for these 10 missiles, there was an automatic query to the missile itself as to exactly what was wrong. This is a computer operated audible readout of the fault condition. The words of the readout were 'channel 9 Guidance and Control

Dr. Hynek interviewed personnel above ground who sighted two UFOs over the base. He told me that armed Security Alert Teams were dispatched toward one of the UFOs that appeared to land.

Section No Go.' There was later reported to have been UFOs in the vicinity at the time of the shutdown of these 10 missiles. This report of the fault condition and UFOs was never confirmed and very little was mentioned about it again."

John admitted that he was in the LCF when lights came on the status panel denoting all 10 missiles were in the no go fault condition and when the computer generated analysis was made. He did not see any UFOs himself but later heard others talking about it.

• • •

Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota (1966)

I. March 30, 1966 (Estimated)

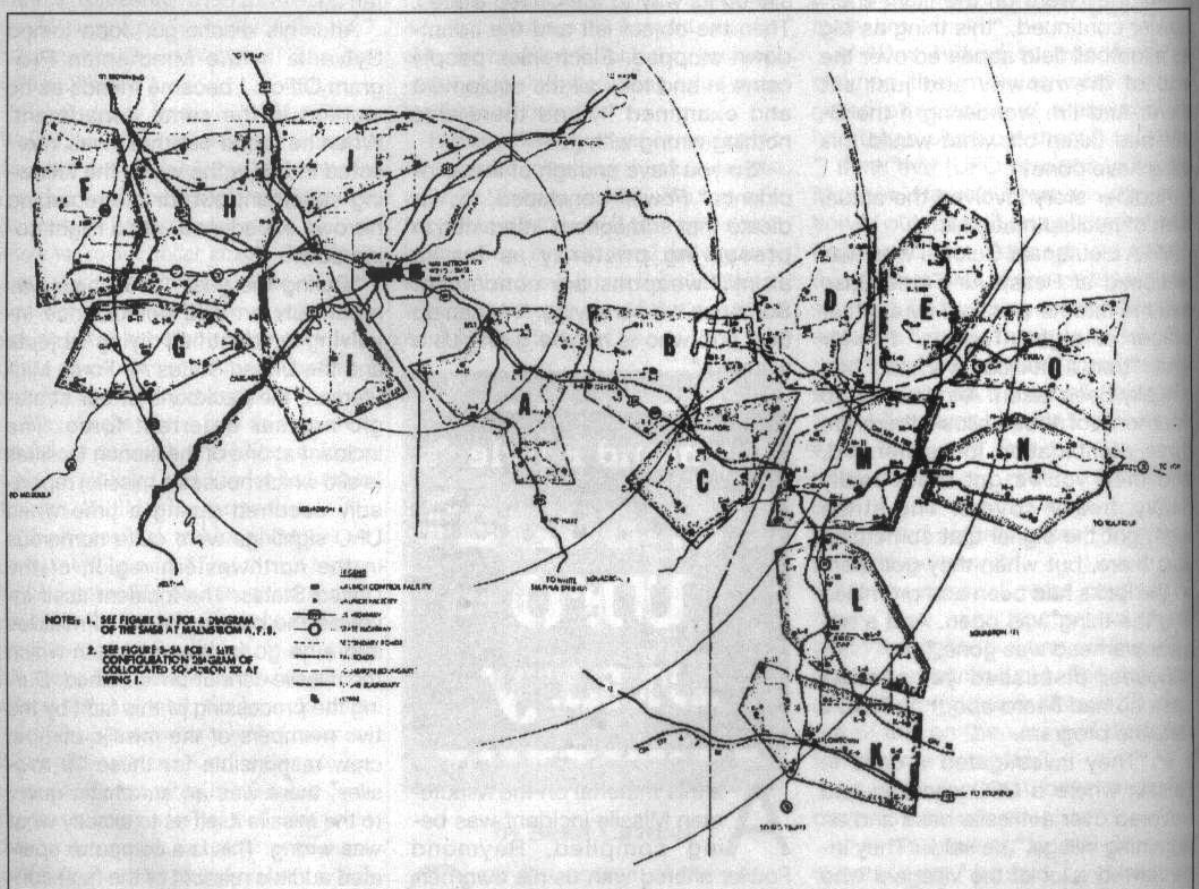
A. Sid Wartel (Sylvania Employee On-Site)

A USAF Major told him on April 13, 1966, that between one of the sites and the main base he saw a UFO ("definitely craft of some kind that was unconventional"). He got out of his car and watched it maneuver and then move off quickly. He reported it but was told to keep quiet about it so he will not allow his name to be used. Prior to this, he had not put much stock in the UFO subject.

II. August 25, 1966

A. Unnamed USAF LCF Officer visiting Sylvania

When Irwin Saltzman introduced the above officer to me, he told him jokingly that I was interested in UFOs. The officer said quite seriously that he didn't think much about UFOs until an incident he was involved with changed his mind. I talked to him later. He told me that while operating an LCF on August



Schematic showing E-flight location, part of Minuteman shutdown of 1967.

25, radar tracked UFOs maneuvering over the base at 100,000 feet. Simultaneously, the LCF's sophisticated radio equipment was blocked out by static when a UFO hovered over the site. The interference ceased when the UFO took off.

B. Dr. J. Allen Hynek (Chief Scientific Consultant on USAF UFO Projects)

Dr. Hynek interviewed personnel above ground who sighted two UFOs over the base. He told me that armed Security Alert Teams were dispatched toward one of the UFOs that appeared to land. Both the team's and intercepting aircraft's communications were completely jammed before the UFOs streaked away.

• • •

Malmstrom AFB, Montana (1967)

I. Week of March 20, 1967

A. Ivor Dahlof Input (Sylvania Employee on site)

1. Told me by phone that UFOs were sighted visually and on radar over missile sites

2. Fighters scrambled to intercept UFOs

3. WS133A Type Flight "E" went down during sightings because of unexplained "Equipment Abnormalities"

4. Security Alert Teams were activated

B. Gene Whittington (In-Plant Boeing Representative)

Per request of Ray Fowler called the MAFB Assistant Base Manager, a personal friend of his and asked him what caused "E" Flight to go down. He told Gene that the matter was highly classified and that he could not get a copy of the report. Gene told me that it was a hot potato and to drop it.

C. Joe O'Brien (On Site Person/ Forget which company)

Told me that a Dan Renauldi, a civil servant, was within a few feet of a UFO at MAFB.

II. April 1–4, 1967

Ivor Dahlof, Jim Pompelli and Sid Wartel (Sylvania On-Site Employees)

Told me that they listened to "radio chatter' between sites about Flight "E" and that UFO sightings were continuing and being tracked by radar simultaneously.

III. April 10, 11, 1967

A. Russ Lawson (Boeing On-Site Employee)

Phoned on April 12 and told me that base personnel had seen a bright round white object circling over the missile sites with an up and down motion. The Base Commander reportedly explained it as a highly secret government testing project. He also said that a local commercial radio station was told not to publicize the sighting.

B. Jim Pompelli (Sylvania On-Site Employee)

Phoned to tell me that he heard "A" Flight had gone down as well during this same period but had no exact date. He said that a Security Alert Team had seen it and Radar had tracked it.

• • •

So there's a brief glimpse into the shadowy world of the U.S. military and civilian defense contractors as they struggle to understand and respond to phenomena not of this world. Who can you trust in such a situation? And how much does paranoia function as a tool of survival when UFOs enter a network already shrouded in the numerous secrets required for the functioning of the defense industry? Raymond Fowler knows about that secrecy from personal experience, and is one of those brave few who are willing to talk about it openly.

Researcher Raymond Fowler was personally involved in the missile crisis. (Photo credit by Carol Barr.)

Although the Grays seem to get all the attention these days, there are still plenty of other alien-types floating around the galaxy, including ETs who can pass as humans!

The Beautiful Blondes and their Incredible Flying Machines

My preconceived ideas were quickly shattered when it came to this particular aspect of the UFO enigma. In my role as an investigator I found that many of those claiming encounters and abductions were describing the same types of beings and events without knowing each other.

by Don Worley

When one thinks of aliens, in all likelihood the mind conjures up images of strange creatures that show up regularly on the Sci-Fi Channel or at least on the movie lot of a Steven Speilberg shoot.

In the last half century or so Hollywood has thrown all kinds of bug-eyed boogie monsters from space at us, but only in a handful of motion pictures (such as the classic The Day The Earth Stood Still) have our "visitors" been depicted as resembling human life as we recognize it here on Earth. We've been exposed to a multitude of giant insects, meandering bloobs, things with tentacles and a host of other mix-shaped aliens, but outside of a shapely female cyborg here and there, directors and script writers would lead us to believe that almost all aliens are just plain ugly as sin...or at least down right weird looking.

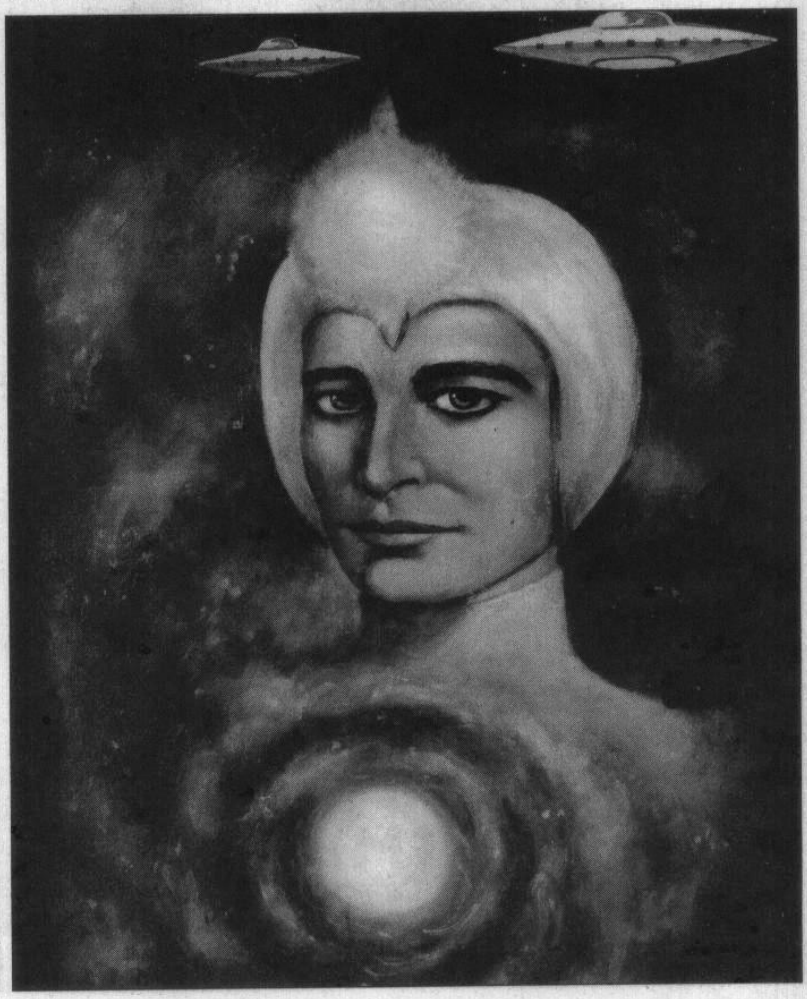
With this background in mind, when one enters the UFO arena as a serious researcher, it would seem obvious that common sense would dictate to us the appearance of alien crews based upon "past performance." Thus, you can imagine my surprise when I discovered that human-looking UFOnauts not only exist, but that they play an extremely important role in the riddle of the flying saucers.

When I embarked upon my research of the Nordic-types as they are generally referred to, I certainly was not prepared for what I was to learn. My preconceived ideas were quickly shattered when it came to this particular aspect of the UFO enigma. In my role as an investigator I found that many of those claiming encounters and abductions were describing the same types of beings and events without knowing each other.

For the most part, those whom I spoke with for the purposes of this article are lifelong experiencers. Most frequently their contacts have occurred during the night time hours and in what science might refer to as an altered state of consciousness. In rare instances a small number of individuals have said that their encounters have transpired in broad daylight under like circumstances.

In a total of approximately 100 cases, 36 of the reported episodes involved Nordic-type aliens, Utilizing the testimony of these contactees, I was able to place their experiences in the following categories:

A—The nature and appearance of the



"I observed the Nordics along with the worker Grays and a group of child-like beings who were very pale. They were all in one place and the Nordics—who were blonde—wore silky smooth, light blue suits."

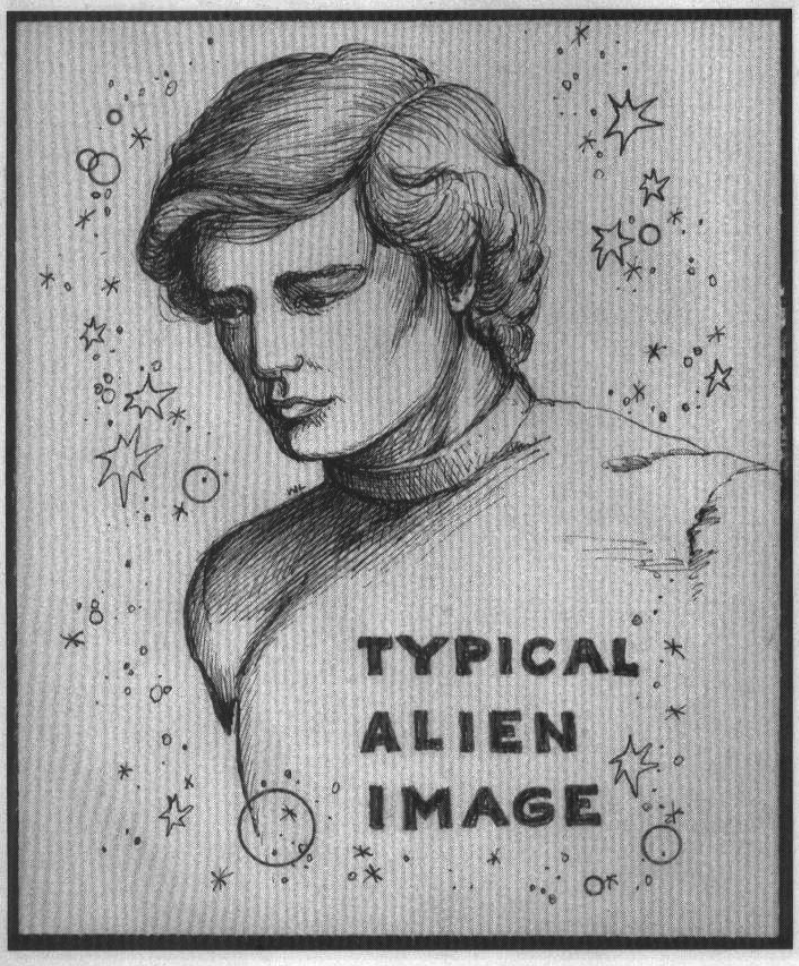
Nordics.

B—Special revealing eases that have occurred involving this particular type of being.

C—The Nordics affinity for discussing forthcoming cataclysmic Earth changes.

Appearance and Nature of the Nordics

■ We hear first from Donna, a Canadian who holds a BA degree whose experience started in childhood while residing in Scotland. "I observed the Nordics along with the worker Grays and a group of child-like beings who were very pale. They were all in one place and the Nordics—who were blonde—wore silky smooth, light blue suits. The only symbol of their victims I recall is a dragon-like snake with wings. The males were handsome with bottomless blue eyes, set in angular faces. The only emotion they displayed was serene amusement until they began to mentally talk to me. The place had a beautiful glow and atmosphere of serenity. Most of the beings looked young, but there were some there who looked older with beards and flowing robes. I had an intense longing for these beings after I left them, and an intense love, respect, and awe when I was with them."



■ Julia, a rural Mississippi housewife. "They do have underground bases, even an under-river base. I have seen the little Grays, the Nordics and their friends the red-eyed apes. They also had a military pilot with them who was being held against his will. The big blondes might weigh 275 lbs., had striking blue eyes, dark skin, and white teeth. Some of the good kind don't like what the bad kind are doing and there is warfare in space."

Judy, an extensive Texas experiencer recently emotionally declared that if the extraterrestrials who manipulated her into the mess she is in don't help her soon her life is doomed. "Yes, around the age of 11 or 12, I had the first experience with the Blondes as you call them, the Elohim as I call them, when I was sitting in our yard near the plum tree. Suddenly my flesh began to itch and I heard a buzzing sound. Directly in front of me, I saw them through a window in the air. They were very tall, exceedingly handsome, and dressed in White hermits and suits. The one sitting down had on a long white robe and their eyes were weird for they had light coming from them. I felt they were talking to me, but now I don't remember what was said. After the image vanished the itching stopped and I sat there for a very long time. I knew something truly remarkable had happened to me in this chilling experience."

Nordic contact has also been reported in such diverse places as England, Spain, Mexico, and Canada. In northern Mexico, in a zone of silence near Ceballos, Durango, Nordics have wandered into town from the desert, accepted refreshments, and then vanished back into the desert.

■ Andy, an Anderson, Indiana man has been abducted far too many times for his liking. According to Andy, there also exists a shorter, adolescent appearing Nordic. This kind of entity approached Andy in a normal daylight setting as he worked in a supermarket. The two who approached him spoke a strange language making him think they must be retarded. So began years of frequent abductions in which a Sanskrit-like language was used to communicate. Andy was informed of this and when he spoke the language in public he ended up in a mental hospital under observation. Sanskrit was the language of the ancient Gods of India who flew in aerial craft. Who knows why it has surfaced in modern America in this case of an abductee.

The Giants

There also exists a giant type of Nordic. On a Mediterrean island the titan

One of the possible disasters that many of the contactees have warned of is "global warming," the end result of which would be the continued increase in the number of floods that would wipe out entire sections of the country.

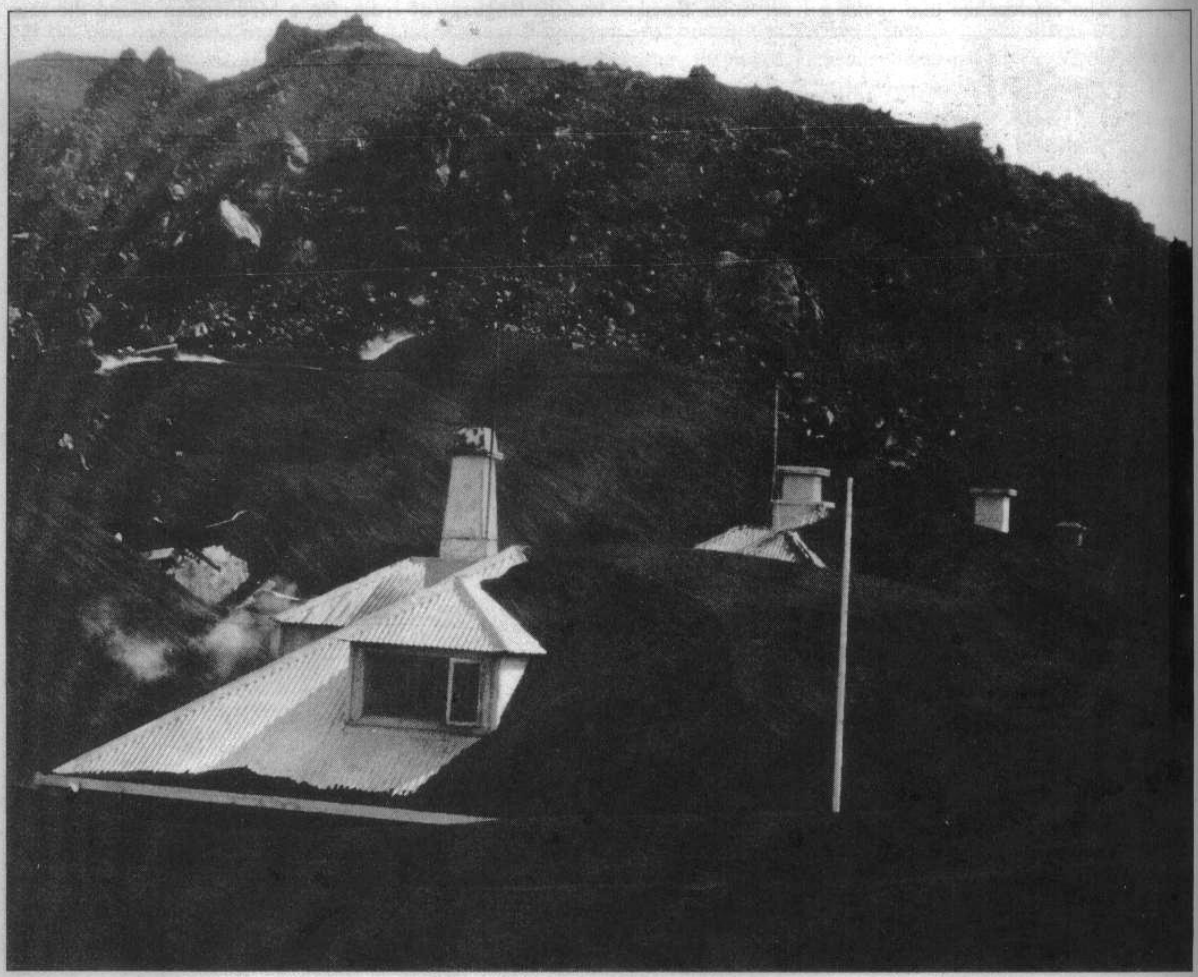
In his intimate relations with those he calls the "Overseers or non-Terrans," the cleric has seen them breathe, eat, drink, lift some abductees out of a lake with their arms, and glide over the surface of the water.

sized entities were called Genitori. In South America a Costa Rican contactee was taken to a base in the Andes mountains run by giant Nordics. There were also Grays and humans there too.

Nordic contact has also been reported in such diverse places as England, Spain, Mexico, and Canada. In northern Mexico, in a zone of silence near Ceballos, Durango, Nordics have wandered into town from the desert, accepted refreshments, and then vanished back into the desert. In Canada, one large religious group still has contact with Nordics they call "Overseers." This intimacy, they say, extends back into ancient days in Europe.

Initially, I was surprised to learn that the Nordics are the controllers of some of the android-like Grays. Here are several examples of such cases.

■ Near Red Fork Falls, Uanaka Mountain, Tennessee: One August evening in 1990, five persons watched a curious event. Near a large fire was an unusually tall naked man with long blonde hair. Dancing around him were



The "sleeping prophet" Edgar Cayce predicted that continents would rise and that volcanos that had been "silent" for eons would start to erupt as the Earth continues to fight back against humankinds negativity. Many of those who have encountered UFO beings have said pretty much the same.

some 30 midgets with large heads.

■ A farmhouse bedroom near Floyd's Knob, Indiana: During one abduction a blue eyed Jesus-like figure in resplendent robe appeared in a shaft of sparkling light that came through the ceiling. He took the abductee's hand and said, "Don't be afraid my child! These are mine," gesturing to the little humanoids who were standing around the room.

Now let us turn to our next category. In it we will learn some even more startling things from the very lips of Nordic experiencers. There are a number of close contact cases in which the persons insist that their Nordic friends are physical in every sense of the word.

Special Revealing Episodes

■ Janice, residing in New Hampshire. Since a child she has considered the Nordics as her "other family" and perceives them as true physical beings. She insists, "They are not gods or angels. They are another race who are here because they are responsible for us. I have seen them breathe in a physical state, but not in the non-physical state.

"I have seen them sit, lie down, have sex, but not go to the toilet. However I have used their stand up toilet." She also said: "It is the fear a person is living through that changes his or her perception of the experience. Just because I am not afraid doesn't mean I never was. It's the same for the nine other persons I know about. I can't tell you how many times we are referred to as "aliens lovers or delusion-driven breeding stock, because we are no longer afraid."

■ Amy, who lives in Michigan, is a very kind experiencer who has tried to help others. My last communication from her had her feeling caught in the middle due to the arrival of new players who gather to find out what the other ETs are doing. The situation has caused her to be hospitalized. She has not seen the Nordics eat, but has seen them resting on what looked like a chaise lounge. Amy told me, "As you know, I believe there are different groups of tall beings making contact. When I stated I had not seen any Nordics with the Zeta's (Grays)...or maybe what I should have said is that I don't have any recollection of seeing them. I know that Janice and I have the same Zeta contact.

"We have seen each other on board their craft several times. Needless to say, we find this exciting and call each other up in the morning. We have never met in person on Earth. Anyway Janice does see the tall beings ,the Pleiadians, on board with our group of Zeta's. I would say that not all Nordic types are from the same community and perhaps their goal/agenda is not the same. The Zeta's I am in contact with do have humans living among them. They are from genetic material that they have collected from us earthbound experiencers. I have met several of their people , both human and halfling. I have been shown different living areas for these humans on board.

"One seemed to be for recreation in a park-like atmosphere. I have had several conversations with both males and females about their life there. They seemed genuinely happy people. I do not think they are being treated like slaves."

■ A highly respected pastor from

Some of the things that we have learned about the Nordics are pretty startling. Perhaps what astonished me the most was when I learned—due to the series of lifetime experiencers—that our enigmatic Nordics seem to exist in both the space/time dimensional world of the spirit and the physical world of sensory substance.

Canada says that as a child he was held on the lap of his lifetime mentor "Gold" (Entity has a golden sheen to its eyes which can change color according to its mood), and watched what was done to his loved ones. Over 300 lost time periods and many abduction details have been recalled over 45 years. Some of these memories involved groups of persons in his religious group.

In his intimate relations with those he calls the "Overseers or non-Terrans," the cleric has seen them breathe, eat, drink, lift some abductees out of a lake with their arms, and glide over the surface of the water.

Here in the Pastor's own stunning words is his description of the Nordics most astonishing appearance: "If memory serves me right, it was in late August 1987 . Just about all our brethren who would be participating in the almost fall ritual were out on the landscape. That would make about 400 men, women, and children, and several hundred animals. They appeared just as we were commencing our march to our most holy place. One second they were not there, and the next second they were. Of the few brethren who'd been facing in the direction in which they appeared the word was that there was a rippling in the air not unlike that of heat just prior to the arrival of the non-Terrans. A most abrupt silence descended on the group when they realized just who had joined our party. It was five Nordics led by my "buddie." Only he was observably masculine. The others were of the non-gender variety as far as we could determine. As chief functionary I approached Gold. He said they wished to witness the ritual in person.

They hung around for the entirety of the ritual, then went back to the spot where they had arrived before departing in the same manner."

This man who holds a number of PhD's, further explained..."Yes, Don, the ones I have been around do respirate. I have touched and been touched by them on plenty of occasions. You don't think that what I felt was real? Thanks to the number of events wherein I've been in the presence of ephemerals, I assume that I've come to know the difference."

In a later conversation, the Pastor—who is also a physician—described some medical instruments and techniques used by his erstwhile benefactor. " As the cylinder is passed slowly from the apex of my cranium to the soles of my feet, probes descend and pass through my exterior derma and into my various interiorties. Yes, I do believe that I can sense something that can be construed as feeling or sensation. Feeling not good or bad but both. It's not unlike being able to laugh and cry at the same time. There is a separate wand which wields the needle which they stick in your nostril. Having thought about it, I'd venture to express that I have seen a little ball-thing that they install, remove or re-install. It's creamic-like only more toward slivery-white. It's quite slender, and some inches in length.

The crunching sound is constant whether they are sticking it into you or taking it out. Sometimes the placement seems to affect the sight of the eye that they've placed the little ball behind."

Some of the things that we have learned about the Nordics are pretty startling. Perhaps what astonished me the most was when I learned—due to the series of lifetime experiencers—that our enigmatic Nordics seem to exist in both the space/time dimensional world of the spirit and the physical world of sensory substance. Now let us move on to the fascinating Nordic habit of giving out cataclysmic Earth destruction warnings.

Nordics Warn of Cataclysmic Earth Changes

The dire warnings of a supposed future axis tilt and Earthly chaos repeat themselves like a broken record in the UFO lore of the English and Spanish speaking parts of the world, and probably elsewhere that we don't know about. The warnings date back in Biblical antiquity and other ancient sources and continue to the present day. One amazing source is the Hopi Indian religious mythologies, legends, pictographs, and petroglyps. These—thus far—incredibly accurate predictions seem to come mainly from seven foot, blonde-haired, blue-eyed, Nordics by way of the Hopi ancestors who called them the Hisatsinom. Not Anasazi as is sometimes mistakenly stated. Anasazi is the Navajo word that means enemy ancestor.

Now, let me describe four of my best cases. When it comes to the United States, the southwestern and mid-America/Great Lakes regions seem to be the focal points of the greatest upheaval; although plenty of changes are due to happen in other places. Are the Nordics telling it to us straight or are they really colossal deceivers? Or, can they just be off timewise? I have noticed a few important misses I'll give later. Maybe reliability is contingent upon the relative hieratical status of the being imparting the warnings.

■ Dannion Brinkley, the man who was struck by lightening and died, spent time with a series of magnificent beings

All over the planet we are seeing an increase in the number of devastating earthquakes. UFO beings have told some earthlings that entire sections of the west coast will literally fall into the ocean.

Due to my own personal involvement, I have come to understand from those involved that each contact with the Nordics can prove to be a gripping drama. To the majority of those who have been selected for contact these beings can be wondrous—almost angelic.

in a fabulous crystal city of light. Thus far many of the 117 predictions that were given to him about future events have come true.

■ Sarah, a prolific message receiver wonders if those who identify themselves to her as "The Lifeforce" may not be the well known Ashtar group through her prediction about Ashtar's arrival on Earth in 1994 proved inaccurate. "The place known as California will disappear. The ocean will relocate during the shift and the deserts of Nevada and Arizona will be a wastrel of waters. The Great Lakes will be destroyed in the latter part of the shift, distributed into waterways that now are oceans. All animals know what is to come and some are even glad to end their mistreatment at the hands of humans. They prefer to embrace the leaving of this planet. There will be many liftoffs in the days before and right after the shift. All persons have chosen their paths and know within their souls the choice that they have made in advance."

■ Donna, of Canada. among my foremost Nordic experiencers, predicted a big quake in California in 1995 which did happen. Regarding the urging of the Nordics for her to move further north in Ontario, I suggested she stay put, which proved right. Donna said, "California will undergo terrible destruction and most of it will be covered by water. Water will cover some parts of the central USA, including Mississippi, and they specifically mentioned New York. Certain people, myself included are being trained to be helpers during this crisis.

"Massive numbers of people are going to die, and at death the Nordics usually assist people in making the transition helping to minimize the fear, disorientation, and trauma. However, there will not be enough Nordics to go around and human helpers will be necessary. The Nordics have always oriented us to the new dimension when we die, moreover, it takes some time, because the shock of "dying" and yet finding one's self alive and not in heaven or hell in the traditional sense is more than some souls can tolerate. Also, there is normally a 'review' and 'evaluation' period where we are required to look over events and choices of our Earthly life and determine which experiences contributed to our evolution of consciousness and which retarded progress."

■ Brenda of Kansas has experienced many abductions and on one occasion the Grecian-featured platinum blonde figure with stunning blue eyes, appeared in broad daylight. Brenda has received messages of Earth's destruction as well as other predictions. One of these given in 1989 was that Bob Dole would become president of the U.S. This of course was a clear miss.

■ El John, a lifetime New Mexico contactee, also made a prediction of a great California quake in 1994, which never happened. "Most of this I receive from direct physical contacts with Nordic beings like the Orion group, who almost always appear wearing blue tights or jumpsuits. Among those encountered are both light-skin and dark-skin beings whose life span is 1,000 to 3,500 Earth years. As far as I know the two mile high tidal wave will happen soon, striking from the far east.

Due to my own personal involvement, I have come to understand from those involved that each contact with the Nordics can prove to be a gripping drama. To the majority of those who have been selected for contact these beings can be wondrous—almost angelic. But in studying these cases I have come to understand that there are many unanswered questions which these encounters pose to the serious investigator.

For example:

■ Exactly who are these beings?

■ Where do they reside, and furthermore are they physical or paranormal in form?

■ Are their intentions good, bad or indifferent, and are they guided by a supreme, wise, master somewhere whom we might call God?

We know at least some of the Nordics can be classified as "deceivers," as many of their predictions and dire warnings have not proven accurate. As a good case in point, is the recent demise of the followers of the Heavens Gate group. Their leader, Bo or Do, had in the past detailed out of body experiences, mentioned hearing voices, and told of a higher level of consciousness which could be reached with the help of beings from space. Many of his followers were contactees who seem to have been easily swayed by these beautiful entities with awesome powers.

In not one of my 40 articles published over the years have I ever advocated trusting totally in the aliens. I'm convinced that all of these aliens should be judged by their actions and not by what they show or tell anyone they have contacted. We must keep an open mind but always remember never to put our life on the line.

Author's Note: In order to safeguard the reputation of those involved so as they will not be the brunt of ridicule or harassment, no actual names have been used in this article, though the files are here at my home for reference. Those with experiences to relate may contact me at 1051 Beech Street, Connersville, IN 47331.

Angel hair is a material that is sometimes ejected either accidentally or intentionally, from UFOs. It is described as being similar to spider webs or long sticky gossamer strings of some unidentified substance.

The Mystery of Angel Hair

by Preston Dennett

Physical evidence as the result of a UFO encounter is extremely rare. Most UFO witnesses are left only with vivid memories of an incredible experience that many people would never dare believe to be true. On some rare occasions, however, UFOs do leave physical evidence. Sometimes this is in the form of landing traces; sometimes it is in the form of photographs or radar returns; sometimes scars, marks or burns are left on the witnesses body. On even rarer occasions, witnesses report miraculous healings caused by UFOs (see my book: UFO Healings: True Accounts of People Healed by Extraterrestrials.) Usually, however, there is little or no physical evidence to support the veracity of an encounter, and the unfortunate witnesses are left trying to prove their encounters on their reputation alone.

There is one type of physical evidence, however, that has been reported across the world. It has shown up in some of the earliest recorded UFO encounters and continues to be reported today. This type of physical evidence is popularly known as "angel hair."

Angel hair is a material that is sometimes ejected either accidentally or intentionally, from UFOs. It is described as being similar to spider-webs or long sticky gossamer strings of some unidentified substance. Although it has been ejected from UFOs in literally dozens of cases, it almost always disintegrates within seconds or minutes after the encounter. And although it has been reported for years and years, there has yet to be a sample that has been collected and preserved for future study. Because of this, angel hair represents one of the

most puzzling and mysterious forms of physical evidence from UFOs.

Here in the United States, we call it angel hair. But UFOs are a global phenomenon, and so, of course, is angel hair. In France it is called "Cheveux de la Sainte Vierge" or Virgin Mary's hair. In Italy, they call it "spun glass." It goes by many names, but all are very descriptive of the fluffy, cotton-candy nature of the substance.

What exactly is "angel hair?" Thankfully, many researchers have realized the importance of such accounts, and have painstakingly recorded the details of some of these cases. This, of course, has led to some wild speculations about their origins, and in some cases, what appears to be genuine breakthroughs revealing the true nature of angel hair. Let us examine some of the more dramatic and well-verified accounts and probe more deeply into this missing piece of the UFO puzzle.

The San Fernando Valley Incident

Probably the granddaddy of all angel hair encounters occurred in November 16, 1953 over the San Fernando Valley in southern California. The San Fernando Valley has always been a virtual hotbed of UFO activity, producing scores of dramatic encounters (see my book: One in Forth: The UFO Epidemic.) Important here is an encounter that was witnessed by hundreds if not thousands of San Fernando Valley residents.

According to the witnesses, they were watching three jets when they saw a "huge silvery ball" trailing behind the jets. At first they thought the silvery sphere was being towed by the jets. But then the jets landed one by one and the silvery sphere kept right on flying. It moved up, down and sideways then suddenly ejected a "long streamer of white stuff" which slowly drifted down to the valley floor.

The angel hair thickly covered an entire two block area. One witness was a bakery truck driver who reports that his vehicle was "completely covered" with the wispy fibrous material.

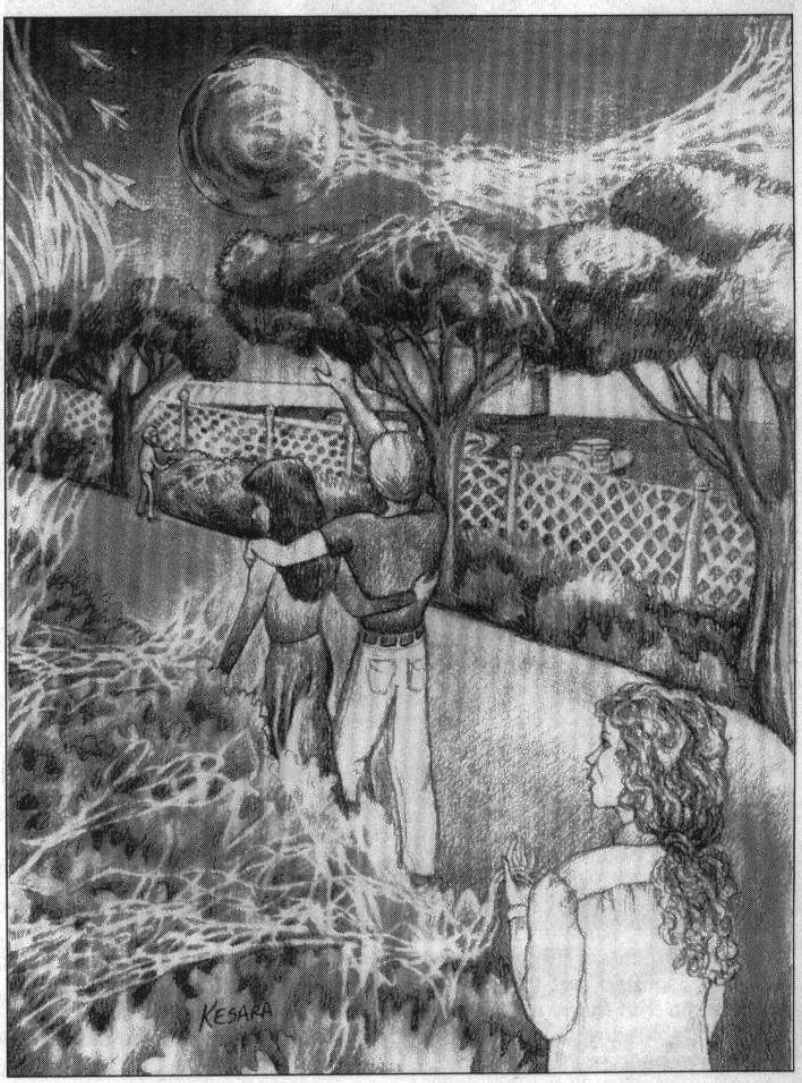
Another witness, Mrs. Corsten, who was in the direct path of the angel hair reported a curious detail. According to Mrs. Corsten, the angel hair "fell onto bushes and jumped out to passersby as hair does to a magnetized comb." She, like many other witnesses, picked up a few strands and it quickly dissolved in her hands. She watched as Air Force officials arrived and tried to analyze a twelve-foot-long strip of the stuff which had settled in the branches of a tree.

The substance created a huge sensation, and eventually more officials arrived, including three engineers from Lockheed, North American and Douglas Aircraft companies who came to inspect the debris. One of the engineers was reportedly skeptical and "sneering," but after examining the strange substance, left with an attitude that was "silent and thoughtful." Evidently, he was as mystified as were the witnesses.

Unfortunately, all attempts to gather the substance were doomed to failure as in a matter of minutes, it all began to dematerialize or simply melt away. When touched by human hands, it disappeared almost instantly.

Nevertheless, the incident was witnessed by so many people that it got considerable press coverage. Several newspapers recounted the bizarre incident and it has been covered in many UFO books as a "classic case" of angel hair.

It was a highly dramatic case and it made many UFO investigators aware of this bizarre phenomena. Although many had never heard of angel hair, less than one year earlier, another equally dramatic incident occurred over Oloron, in the countryside of France.



The Oloron, France Angel Hair Fall

It was on Friday, October 17, 1952, on a beautiful cloudless day when Monsieur Yves Prigent, the superintendent of Oloron High School was eating lunch with his wife who was a teacher at the school. Suddenly one of their children cried out that something "fantastic" was flying in the sky above the school. The entire family of five rushed to the window and observed "a long narrow cylinder, apparently inclined at a 45 degree angle, moving in a straight line toward the southwest." They estimated the object to be about two miles distant. They described it as "whitish, non-luminous and very distinctly defined." As they watched, they noticed upwards of thirty other objects described as "featureless balls [with a] central red sphere, surrounded by a yellowish ring." The objects moved in rapid short zigzags, and occasionally would produce a vivid lightning-like electric arc between them.

Then came a truly bizarre aspect. According to Monsieur Prigent, "A cottony cloud of strange shape was floating against the blue sky" directly below the objects. As Prigent says, "All these strange objects left an abundant trail behind them, which slowly fell to the ground as it disappeared.

For several hours, clumps of it hung in the trees, on the telephone wires, and on the roofs of the houses."

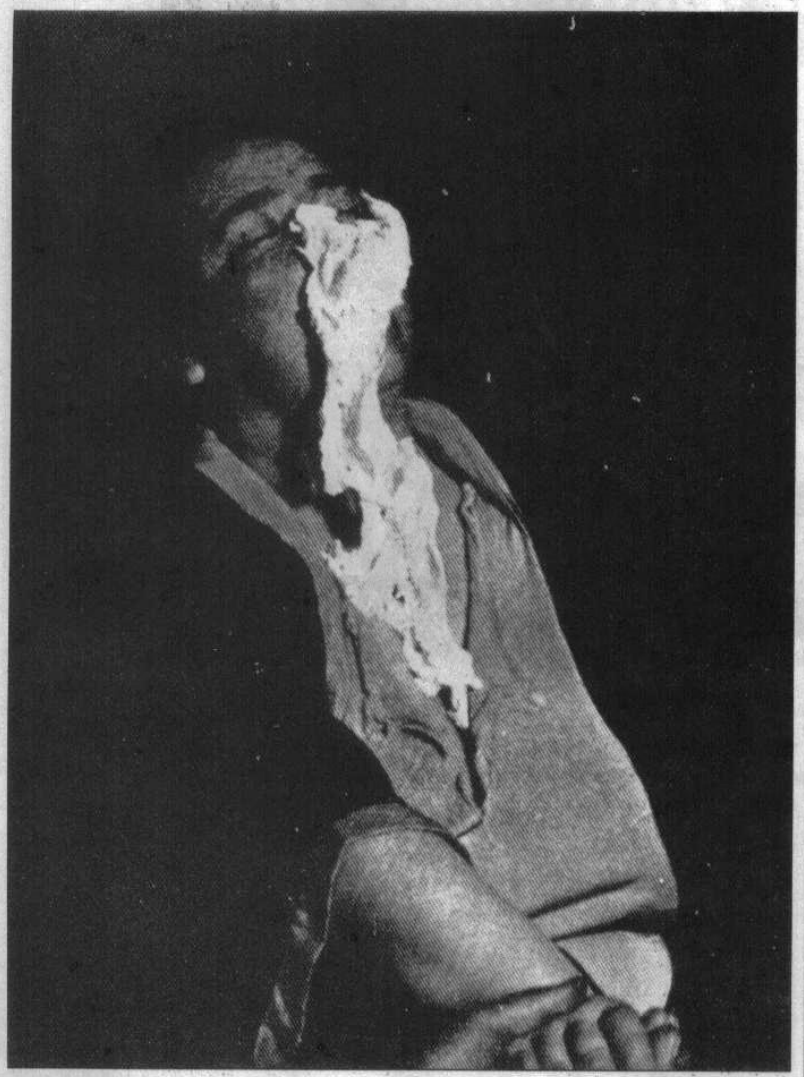
Witnesses rushed outside to examine the substance which was described as being like gossamer or fine fibers of wool or nylon. Some braver witnesses began scooping up the material and rolling it up into little balls. As a result, the balls became "gelatinous then sublimed in the air and disappeared."

The school's gymnastic teacher scooped up volumes of the material from the school's playing field. Other teachers gathered up the substance and placed it against a lit match. They found that fibers "burned like cellophane" and quickly disintegrated into nothingness.

Next came the school's science teacher, Monsieur Poulet, who quickly did a close-up visual examination of the substance. Unfortunately, due to the ephemeral nature of the material, he was unable to preserve a sample for chemical analysis. However, he did have time to gather a thread about a dozen meters (36 feet) in length, which he wound around the end of a stick. He had no sooner collected the thread when it dissolved and disappeared right before his very eyes.

The phenomenon was observed by numerous other highly reputable witnesses including dozens of residents of the town of Oloron, hunters in the nearby Josbaight valley and by the Mayor of the neighboring village of Geronce. Further evidence of the reality of the incident came forth when the nearby radar station at Mont-de Marc reported that their instruments detected strange activity. As in the San Fernando Valley, California case, the incident was witnessed by so many people that it gained considerable attention and eventually appeared in numerous newspapers. Skeptics who had not witnessed the phenomenon proposed the absurd explanation that the witnesses had seen spider webs "produced by myriads of migrating spiders."

Of course this ridiculous solution fails to account for the bizarre aspects



Those that maintain there is a paranormal aspect to the UFO phenomenon have pointed out the similarity between the substance known as ectoplasma that many mediums are known to emit during a seance and the strange substance known as angel hair that falls from the sky when UFOs have been sighted nearby.

of the incident including the UFOs themselves, not to mention the fact that the angel hair dissolved very quickly whereas spider webs maintain their form for months or longer. The spider web explanation caused considerable controversy among the witnesses, who were certain that what they saw had absolutely nothing to do with spiders.

It was only ten days later that an equally astonishing incident occurred over another village in France.

The Gaillac Angel Hair Incident

It was about 5:00 PM on October 27, 1952 when Mademoiselle Daures was drawn outside because her chickens were raising a huge commotion. Thinking they were about to be threatened by a wild animal, she ran outside and observed exactly what the observers from Oloron had seen: a long cylindrical object accompanied by a score of silvery "saucers" which flew two by two in zigzagging patterns. On this occasion, the saucers approached to a very low altitude of 400 meters, and remained in the sky for approximately twenty minutes.

In that time, Mademoiselle Daures called her son and three neighbors who all observed the objects. Meanwhile, at least one hundred known witnesses all observed the massive UFO display, including two police officers. As they all watched the objects, the strange white threads known as angel hair began to descend upon the town, and continued to fall for some time after the actual UFOs had already left.

The witnesses described the fibers as being similar to "glass wool," and they too began to gather up huge quantities of the stuff. Again, the same pattern was observed. The angel hair, when gathered in clumps became gelatinous and then quickly dissolved and was gone.

Unfortunately, nobody was able to retain a sample of the substance for further study. It was similarly described as being a "bright, whitish, translucent material." And again, the incident received widespread attention and caused quite a stir in the community and beyond. As in the Oloron case, there was official confirmation of the incident; in this case employees of the local meteorological station at Brives-Charensac sighted a "silvery metallic disk" flying overhead in a southeast direction. Meanwhile, other incidents continued to occur.

The Graulhet, France Angel Hair Incident

In the second half of 1954, nearly all of France became embroiled in a UFO wave of stupendous proportions. Several of the incidents involved falls of angel hair. On October 13, 1954 above Graulhet France, numerous citizens witnessed an awesome display of UFOs.

One witness was Monsieur Carenac, a tanner. In this case, he was watching a huge, white "disk-shaped" object which was swaying and moving at tremendous speeds. He retrieved a pair of binoculars just in time to watch the object explode in mid-flight. As he says, "I had been following the bizarre craft for several seconds when it exploded in full flight. At the same time a circular object, very much smaller and silvery, seemed to spurt out from the mass and continued straight toward the south, where it soon disappeared, while the burst fragments of the soft disk scattered out through the sky in a multitude of shapeless fragments which began to fall gently like shreds of cloth or paper."

This explosion of the UFO was witnessed by multitudes of people, all who rushed toward the area in time to watch the debris float to the ground where it caught on telephone wires, tree limbs and spread on the ground. Again, the

witnesses picked up the threads which were reportedly clinging together like cobwebs, only to be "wilted away" when handled.

Samples were quickly collected and taken to the local police station from where it was then rushed to a chemist. Unfortunately, the chemist had little success as the material evaporated in its characteristic manner. The chemist did place the material against a flame, only to find that it disappeared almost instantaneously without burning or producing any smoke.

The Vienne, France Angel Hair Incident

On October 18, 1954, a mere five days after the Graulhet incident, there was yet another dramatic fall of angel hair over another portion of the French countryside. Numerous witnesses saw UFOs described as "white shapes" moving in the typical zigzag maneuvers. It wasn't long afterwards when the entire town of Vienne, France became coated with angel hair.

Says one witness, Monsieur Lelandais, "about half an hour later, a sort of rain of cobwebs came down on the airfield, as thick as closely-woven cloth. Handfuls were falling on the ground, on the hangar, on the airplanes, and we started to pick up great bunches. It felt like holding rubber threads, very fine, very soft to the touch, which matted together and at once evaporated in our fingers without leaving any sensation at all, any odor, or the least trace. We had the impression that it was the heat of our hands that made the material melt."

On some occasions, angel hair does last for up to a few hours. In this case, it lasted for an amazing five hours. Monsieur Lelandais thought quickly and gathered up a large sample which he placed in a "tightly closed bakelite box." He placed the box in a cool place, hoping it would preserve the strange material. However, when he opened the box the next day, it was totally empty.

Not too surprising, the incident received widespread media coverage, but again, no satisfying explanations were revealed. In this case, as in most of these cases, the angel hair dissipated before any proper analysis could be done.

Marysville, Ohio Incident

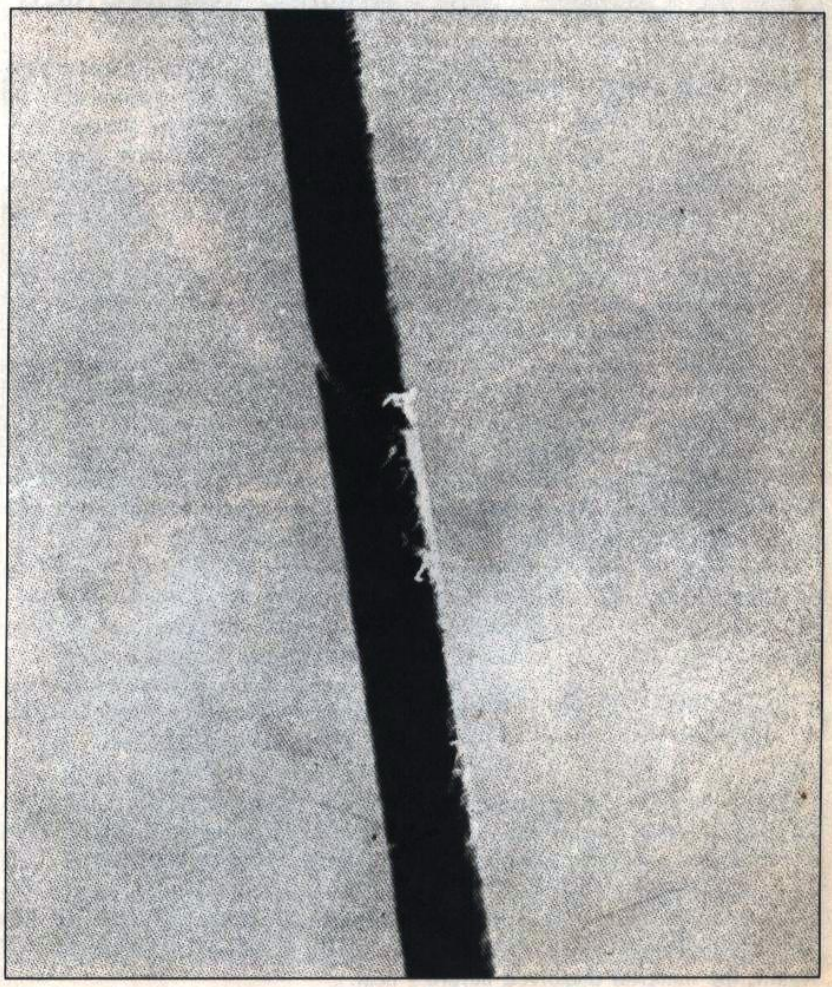
One of the more bizarre and yet detailed accounts of angel hair comes from a single witness. On November 30, 1954, Mrs. Dittmar of Marysville, Ohio witnessed a silvery "cigar-shaped" craft which hovered overhead and emitted a blinding flash of white light. Immediately afterwards, Mrs. Dittmar witnessed a discharge of angel hair coming from the object. As usual, it was in the form of "long fibers" which drifted lazily to the ground. Mrs. Dittmar, like many witnesses, rushed forward and picked up a wad of the stuff. As she reports, "It is soft and fine to the touch, but not sticky, and stretches without tearing, although it stains the hands green."

As in all the other cases, the mysterious filaments quickly vanished "without trace or residue."

The Portales, New Mexico Angel Hair Incident

This incident, unlike most, has only a peripheral connection to UFOs, in that the sightings actually followed the appearance of angel hair rather than preceding it. On October 23 and 24, 1957 in Portales, New Mexico, witnesses reported a "curious webby substance" falling from clear blue skies. The gossamer strands that drifted down were in this case upwards of fifty feet long and fell in enormous quantities. In fact the falls were so heavy that it covered an area of over one hundred square miles and was so thick that it interfered with broom-corn harvesting.

In this case, there was enough material that a preliminary scientific analysis was performed. The substance was



Here, seen under a microscope, is a rare sample of angel hair found during a UFO flap in 1953, in the San Fernando Valley in California.

Many theories have been raised. Jerome Clark and Loren Coleman have pointed out that angel hair is similar to the amorphous and volatile "ectoplasm" from which ghosts allegedly materialize into the physical plane.

tested for radioactivity, however, all tests came up negative. Eventually, Dr. William Kister, a biologist from the University of New Mexico offered the only explanation that seemed at all possible, that it was spider webs. However, he admits that he never actually examined the material and was only speculating. Nevertheless, many accepted his explanation, despite the fact that it didn't account for the many bizarre details, including the huge quantities of the stuff.

The Puenye, California Incident

On February 1, 1954, Mrs. W. F. Daily of Puenye, California had a very typical UFO encounter, except that in this case, she was astonished to see a "shiny substance" ejected from the flying saucer. Again, the substance slowly floated down to cover trees, phone wires and small bushes. Mrs. Daily was able to grab huge handfuls of the substance, but, as she says, "It vanished when I tried to touch it with my hands."

Mrs. Daily didn't stop there. She then telephoned the Mount Wilson Observatory to ask if they knew of any method to collect and preserve the mysterious substance, but the scientists were skeptical and refused to provide any assistance.

The Jerome, Ohio & Whitsett North Carolina Angel Hair Falls

On October 22, 1954, the principal of Jerome Elementary School, one teacher and at least sixty grade schoolers all witnessed a "cigar-shaped object" which flew over the school, emitting a long stream of angel hair and flew away. Again, the material dissolved before anybody was able to analyze it.

Then, nearly exactly one year later on October 27,1955, there was another schoolyard incident, this time involving the principal, several teachers and dozens of school children of Whitsett, North Carolina. They all observed about ten spherical objects described as "shiny steel balls" flying overhead. As the objects flew by, they ejected large amounts of angel hair which drifted slowly to the ground and promptly dissolved.

Historical Accounts of Angel Hair

Although the angel hair phenomenon gained widespread attention only in the 1950s after the above classic cases, there were actually many incidents which occurred stretching far back into history, long before the modern age of UFOs began.

In 1833, in Rahway, New Jersey, witnesses observed what they thought were meteors, followed by falls of a "gelatinous substance" which was described as looking like "lumps of jelly" or "the coagulated white of an egg."

Around the same time, a woman from West Point, New York discovered a mass of substance which she said looked like "boiled starch."

Meanwhile, in Newark, New Jersey further witnesses found more substances which they described as being similar to "soft soap." According to a newspaper report of the incident, the substance "possessed little elasticity, and on the application of heat, it evaporated as readily as water."

All of the above sounds exactly like angel hair. Not only is there the requisite UFO sightings, but the substance has the same description given by modern witnesses, including its quick disappearance especially in the presence of heat.

Another similar incident occurred on November 21, 1898 over the town of Montgomery, Alabama. Although there was no recorded UFO sighting, witnesses reported that quantities of a "spider weblike substance" fell in strands and masses several inches long. The account was written up in a newspaper article, and the substance was described as being similar to a spider web, but definitely not a spider web; looking more like asbestos and having a phosphorescent quality.

Another very interesting historical account took place on August 13, 1917 during what is popularly known as "the Miracle of Fatima." This case has been interpreted by many as a religious miracle. Nevertheless, it has all the trademarks of a UFO incident including a bright unidentified light in the sky moving in zigzag patterns and casting out beams of light, strange buzzing noises, supernatural beings, miraculous healings, prophecies and more. It occurred over a period of several days. What's little known about the vision at Fatima incident is that it also involved the phenomenon of angel's hair. On the second day, more than 18,000 people witnessed the incident, making it the most widely viewed UFO event in history. Presumably, many of the witnesses also described a fall of angel hair, which they compared to "falling flowers," "petals" or "flakes."

On the next day, the crowd had grown to more than 30,000, and again the entire range of phenomena repeated themselves, including falls of angel hair. As one witness described, "As the people stare at this strange sight they soon notice that the falling, glistening globules, contrary to the laws of perspective, grow smaller and smaller as they near them. And when they reach out their hands and hats to catch them they find that they have somehow melted away."

The astute reader will have, of course,

noticed that the description matches almost exactly other people's descriptions of angel hair.

Speculations, Theories & Conclusions

Now that we have examined many of the cases of so-called angel hair, we should be able to say with some authority what we are dealing with. Unfortunately, we can't. All we are left with is a tangled heap of wild speculations and theories.

What is angel's hair? The answer is, we don't know. Obviously it is not literally angel's hair or the hair of the blessed Virgin Mary. Neither is it spun wool or glass. And as any entomologist will tell you, it is positively not caused by spider webs.

Then what is it? What is this mysterious phenomenon that appears in case after case?

Many theories have been raised. Jerome Clark and Loren Coleman have pointed out that angel hair is similar to the amorphous and volatile "ectoplasm" from which ghosts allegedly materialize into the physical plane. Says Clark and Coleman, "Certainly people are reporting something...sometimes it spews forth various physical materials, which invariably prove to be conventional earthly substances (the sole exception is the mysterious 'angel hair,' which, like the 'ectoplasm' of spiritualist literature, to which apparently it is related, disintegrates within a very short time; consequently no one has ever been able to study it carefully)."

Other researchers have suggested that the material may be nothing more than extraterrestrial "garbage" being dumped from spacecraft. In other words, it is simply the equivalent of ashtrays being emptied or dust being swept out of a room.

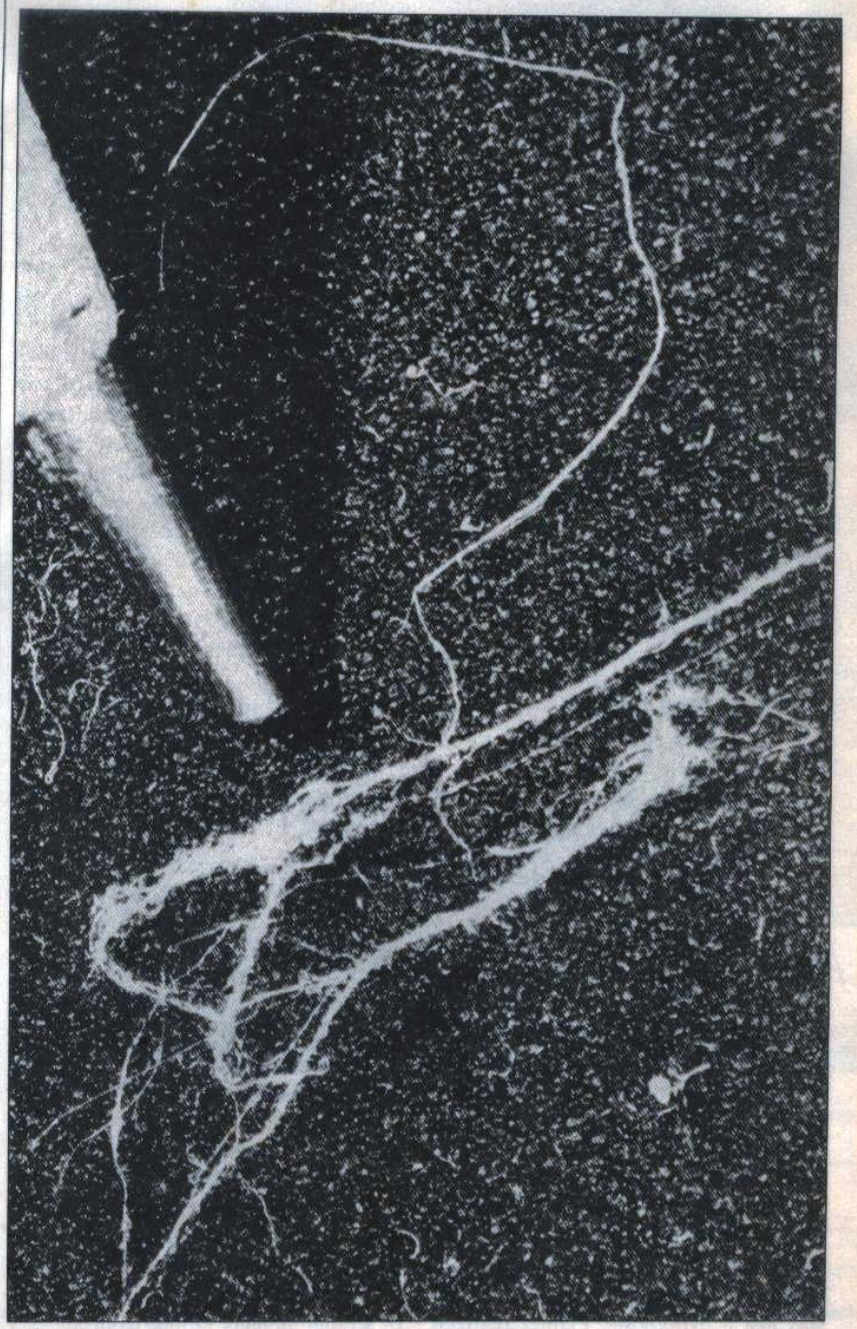
UFO researcher Harold T. Wilkins has raised the possibility that there might be a more useful purpose for angel hair. As he says, "Is it jettisoned...to sterilize the air, or render radioactive fallouts innocuous? Has it any connection with their propulsion in our atmosphere?"

After the Portales, New Mexico incident, one man from nearby Albuquerque asserted that the filaments must be "atmospheric dust" which had become clumped together by a static electrical charge.

The witnesses to the Vienne, France incident happened to be aviators and they were quick to theorize about the origins. They speculated that perhaps the material was formed by "the injection of water at 1,800 degrees into the combustion chambers" and that the water then went through "a molecular disintegration at that temperature" which then led to "a chemical reaction resulting in the curious substance picked up."

Newspaper accounts simplified the explanation with the headline, "Solidified Steam?"

Aime Michel, who investigated several of the incidents in France says, "The nature of this material is a complete mystery. Is 'angel hair' to be con-



So fragile, most samples of angel hair dissipate seconds after being touched, thus making it difficult to collect and analyze.

sidered as something intentional...or is it produced accidentally? Should the production of the substance...be cited as a highly significant performance by a UFO?; or should we regard it merely as something like the ice that forms on airplane wings at a high altitude? We might imagine that under some conditions the means of propulsion used by the saucers can produce a 'polymerization' of atoms of the surrounding atmosphere, forming a sort of high-molecular-weight plastic that solidifies in filaments. This could be thought of as a peculiar and unstable sort of atmospheric 'ice,' which can crystallize out of the cold upper air only under the unusual conditions existing in the vicinity of a flying saucer. When the substance falls to the ground, normal warmth would soon depolymerize it and release the atoms in their original gaseous state — so that in the end there would remain nothing but the ordinary gases of the atmosphere. This would explain the futility of the chemical analysis attempted up to this time."

Aime Michel recommends that future specimens might be preserved for study by immediately preserving them in extremely low temperatures.

Michel actually owes his speculations to Lieutenant Plantier of the French Air Force, who has developed what is by far the most popular and logical explanation of the mysterious substance known as angel hair.

Plantier was an expert in aviation and particularly interested in propulsion. Recognizing the inability of conventional rockets to easily escape the pull of Earth's gravitational field, he began to search for and hypothesize about alternative propulsion systems which would be more effective.

One day during his musings, he happened to envisage a startling new theory that led to a possible breakthrough in the origins of angel hair. Plantier theorized that because of the existence of cosmic radiation, it might be possible to harness the energy in a more degraded form, in essence to use the energy to create a kind of force field which could be varied or directed at will. Although it was just a hypothesis, Planter realized that it could easily explain many of the bizarre aspects of UFOs including the symmetrical shapes of UFOs, the supersonic speeds without creating sonic booms, the instant accelerations and decelerations, the ninety degree turns, the change of shape and color of the craft, and much more. In fact, Plantier theorized that several details would be present in such a craft before such details were actually observed! In other words, he was able to predict details of UFO accounts that were later verified in actual accounts, including peculiarities in UFO photographs known as the "off-center spot" or an apparent warping of the symmetry of the craft, the formation of mist or fog around craft, the craft's ability to effect electromagnetic machines and more...including the formation of angel hair.

According to Plantier, angel hair would be formed by such a craft's propulsion system because, as Aime Michel paraphrases, "the ionization of the atmosphere in the wake of the craft would be sufficient (because of the colossal intensity of the field) to produce ultra-heavy positive particles, which in contact with the molecules of oxygen, nitrogen, water, etc., of the surrounding air would exhibit novel chemical reactions. The product of these reactions—the famous angel's hair—would disintegrate as the ionization disappeared."

Plantier's theory is remarkably tenable. Not only does it account for the production, consistency and rapid disintegration of the angel hair, but it also accounts for the rarely reported detail of angel hair to "leap out" at passersby as witnessed in the San Fernando Valley, California incident.

In layman' s terms, angel hair then is nothing more than flying saucer exhaust. The only real mystery is exactly how this substance is actually formed. If Plantier is right, experiments could be conducted using huge amounts of energy that might produce angel hair or some similar substance.

So although the angel hair mystery is not solved, we may be one step closer to understanding its origins.

On an end-note, one must also keep in mind that there is a very long history of strange objects falling from the sky, including everything from rocks, metal, ice, water, frogs, fish, snails, mussels, eels, worms, snakes, insects, bits of flesh, blood, grain, strange powders, sand, and even hazel nuts! The main theory for these falls of specific substances is severe weather such as intense wind, tornadoes, hurricanes, waterspouts and the like. Angel hair, however, would seem to be a separate phenomenon, particularly because it remains unidentified. Such is the nature of the UFO phenomenon.

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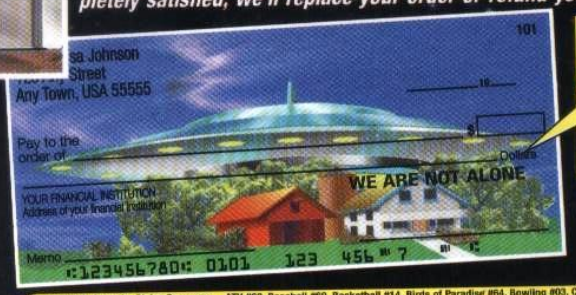

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